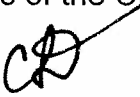




Office of the City Manager

October 26, 2012

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Christine Daniel, City Manager 
Subject: Proposed Renaming of Harold Way

On June 26, 2012, Council referred a request from Tibetan Nyingma Meditation Center (TNMC), to rename Harold Way in downtown Berkeley to Dharma Way, to the Public Works Commission (PWC). As instructed, the PWC followed the procedure adopted by the Council on January 31, 2012 and scheduled and held a Public Hearing on October 4, 2012.

The day following the hearing, the attached communication was received from the applicant withdrawing the request for the renaming. Therefore, no further action is planned, except for refunding the fee paid at time of application (\$800) since it was specified to cover estimated direct costs of actually making the name change (e.g. replacing street signs) that will no longer be incurred.

Attachment: Message from TNMC received on October 5, 2012

cc: William Rogers, Deputy City Manager
Mark Numainville, Acting City Clerk
Ann-Marie Hogan, City Auditor
Mary Kay Clunies-Ross, Public Information Officer
Andrew Clough, Public Works Director
Jeffrey Egeberg, Manager of Engineering, Public Works

Email from Applicant:

From: Jack Petranker [mailto:jackp@mangalamresearch.org]

Sent: Friday, October 05, 2012 10:14 AM

To: Egeberg, Jeffrey

Subject: follow up to Public Works Commission hearing of 10-4-12 re Harold Way

Dear Jeffrey Egeberg,

Please communicate the following to the Commissioners who were present at the meeting last night.

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of TNMC and all our organizations, I want to thank you for the care and intelligence with which you conducted the meeting last night. I have appeared before various commissions over the years, but this meeting was special for the thoughtful and concerned way in which you approached your responsibilities.

My sense is that the meeting helped clarify the issues that you will have to deal with under the new 'naming' ordinance, and I hope that in this respect you found it useful.

Although no formal vote was taken last night, it was clear that the Commission did not favor our application. Under the circumstances, we have no wish to pursue the matter further. You can consider this email a formal withdrawal of our pending application. I can document that further if necessary.

We look forward to working with the City in the future. I personally am pleased to have been part of such a great example of a democratic decision-making process.

Sincerely,

Jack Petranker

Director, Mangalam Research Center

510-809-1003