Memorandum

To: Shannon Allen, City of Berkeley Planning & Development Department
From: Rhoades Planning Group
Date: September 21, 2016
Re: 1900 Fourth Street, Addendum #1 to Applicant Statement

Dear Ms. Allen,

On behalf of Blake Griggs Properties, the following is a summary of an offer accepted by Andy Galvan, representing the Ohlone Indian Tribe, Inc. Although the extensive anthropological and cultural research performed on the site shows that there is likely no impact to tribal cultural resources on the proposed project site, the project team is sensitive to the early and pre-contact habitation of the Bay Area by the Ohlone people and therefore offered that the project’s community room be made available for use by members of the Ohlone people for purposes of cultural activities. The room will include flexible seating configurations suitable for a variety of events. The developer will work with members of the Ohlone community to determine interior requirements to accommodate their desired uses. There will be no charge for the use of the room and up to 20 hours per week will be made available to the Ohlone community and will be coordinated by the project’s property manager. If desired by the Ohlone Indian Tribe, the community room can also include permanent display space to accommodate artwork, artifacts or other information relevant to the history of the Ohlone community in the local area.

In addition to use of the project’s community room, the developer offered to contribute $75,000 toward a scholarship program for the Ohlone community or, alternatively, to use the $75,000 to help fund a Chochenyo language program. The two options were presented to Andy Galvan, representing the Ohlone Indian Tribe, Inc. and the person designated as a Most Likely Descendant by the California Native American Heritage Commission. After considering the above options presented by the developer, Mr. Galvan proposed to have the developer’s financial contribution go toward much-needed improvements to the Ohlone Indian Cemetery in the Mission San Jose in Fremont, California. There is a nexus between this donation and the area around the project site, because shellmound remnants may be present near the Berkeley project site, shellmounds were sometimes used as burial sites, and the Ohlone Indian Cemetery is a consecrated burial ground for Ohlone people.

The donation was provided as a part of the City of Berkeley’s CEQA process to assess potential impacts to tribal cultural resources. An assessment of the tribal cultural resources impacts on the site found no significant impacts. Rather, as a result of archaeological investigations, a review of historical maps, and the consultation process, it was determined that sites of cultural significance may be adjacent to the site, on property not owned by the project applicant.

Sincerely,

Mark Rhoades
Rhoades Planning Group
510-545-4341