

City of Dallas News Release

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City of Dallas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dallas announces final series of town hall meetings to update community on the Master Plan for Dallas Asian American Cultural Center

The City of Dallas has announced the third and final series of town hall meetings to update and solicit feedback from the community pertaining to the ongoing Asian American Cultural Center Feasibility and Master Plan project. The City seeks broad community involvement in the master planning process and encourages Dallas citizens to use these town hall meetings to learn about the project and to share their thoughts about the needs of the arts and cultural community as well as the project's direction.

The public is invited to attend any of the following town hall meetings:

Saturday, September 26
1:00-2:30 p.m.
Bachman Lake Library
9480 Webb Chapel Road
Dallas, 75220

Saturday, September 26
4:00-5:30 p.m.
Timberglen Rec Center
3810 Timberglen Road
Dallas, 75287

Monday, September 28
5:30-7:00 p.m.
Hampton-Illinois Library
2951 S. Hampton Road
Dallas, 75224

At these meetings the project team will present the preliminary building program that has been developed based on feedback from focus groups, earlier town hall meetings and the work of the project's steering committee. Town hall meeting participants will have the opportunity to comment on the preliminary program and this feedback will be incorporated into the final draft of the master plan.

Project Background

A project team consisting of representatives from the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs and Public Works and Transportation departments, along with the architectural firm HOK Architects, has been working with the Dallas Asian community over the last six months on a feasibility and master plan for a proposed Asian American Cultural Center. The study, funded by the 2006 Bond Program and slated for completion in October of this year, seeks to understand the cultural needs of the Asian community that might be fulfilled through an Asian American cultural center, identify site requirements and include a preliminary business plan.

A series of town hall meetings and over 15 community focus groups have been convened at which community members have had an opportunity to discuss the needs of individuals, families and cultural organizations. Findings from the needs assessment have been compiled and submitted to a steering committee of community leaders and an arts advisory committee. A demographic study of the local Asian population has been completed, as well as a benchmarking study of Asian cultural centers in other communities.

Citizens are encouraged to visit the Office of Cultural Affairs website, www.dallasculture.org, which features an archive of the project's preliminary findings, presentations, a demographic study and additional project information. Individuals seeking further information can also contact Catherine Horsey, a consultant to the project, at 214-394-3150 or chorsey@chorsey.com.

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