



425 NORTH LOS ANGELES STREET | LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 | TEL: 213 485-8567 | WWW.CAMLA.ORG

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Contact: Linh Duong  
(213) 485-8568

## LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL PASSES MOTION FOR MUSEUM EXPANSION

### More Than 10,000 Square Feet Is Allotted For Future Development

LOS ANGELES (March 5, 2004) - On Tuesday, March 2, 2004, the Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously to pass the motion for space expansion of the Chinese American Museum (CAM). The successful passing of this motion allows CAM to expand from its current 7,200 square feet location in the historic Garnier Building, to the remaining south portion of the 114-year old structure. Nearly 200 people showed up at City Hall on Tuesday morning in support of the expansion motion, including many local community leaders and Museum donors and supporters.

The newly allocated space, estimated at 16,000 square feet, will be used for additional future exhibit development and educational programming, highlighting Chinese American history, culture and art. CAM recently enjoyed a highly successful public grand opening in December 2003, where more than 800 people turned out to celebrate Southern California's first ever museum dedicated to telling the stories of the Chinese American experience in Los Angeles. Visitors can now marvel at the Museum's permanent and temporary exhibits, all housed inside the historic Garnier Building, a structure built in 1890 and which now stands as the last surviving building of the city's original Chinatown.

The Chinese American Museum (CAM) is jointly developed and operated by the Friends of the Chinese American Museum (FCAM) and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, a department of the City of Los Angeles. CAM's mission is to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of America's diverse heritage by researching, preserving, and sharing the history, rich cultural legacy, and continuing contributions of Chinese Americans. Suggested admission prices are \$3 for the general public and \$2 for seniors and students with I.D. Museum visiting hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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