

3/23/2017

The Honorable Lynette Gibson McElhaney  
Oakland City Council  
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re : The Black Arts Movement and Business District Application to become a California Cultural District

Support from XXXX

Dear Councilmember McElhaney:

On behalf of XXX, I am proud to support the Black Arts Movement and Business District's application to become a California Cultural District. State recognition would contribute to the BAMBD's efforts to preserve and honor the contributions of the Black community in developing Oakland's unique identity, to engage in creative placemaking through the arts, and to foster a new generation of Black culture makers.

The mission of the BAMBD is more important than ever during Oakland's current demographic transitions. We need this district to proudly trumpet the Black community's role in creating Oakland's modern identity as a culturally vibrant City committed to diversity and inclusion. We need the organizational infrastructure to create more partnerships that lead to greater creative placemaking and preservation of existing cultural leaders. Finally, a strong cultural district will be able to organize and coordinate the community's efforts and energy around creative placemaking and fundraising to foster the next generation of artists.

*(Add specific information about why else this designation is important to you or your organization, and in what ways you are excited to partner with the culture district as it takes its first steps)*

It is for these reasons that XXXX is proud to support the BAMBD's application to become a California Cultural District and would like to thank you for your hard work and leadership on these issues.

Sincerely,

CC: California Arts Council