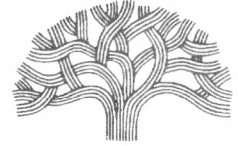


CITY OF OAKLAND



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City of Emeryville Community Services Department  
Community Promotions Grant Committee  
4727 San Pablo Ave.  
Emeryville, CA 94608

April 3, 2019

Dear Committee Members:

I am happy to express my support for the Emeryville Historical Society's Digital Photo Archive. This project, as proposed to the City of Emeryville's Community Promotions Grant program, will be a wonderful resource for our community.

I am the branch manager at Golden Gate Branch Library. We are proud to be the Oakland Public Library location that serves North Oakland and the city of Emeryville. The shared history between our two cities has been highlighted for us over the past year, with our centennial celebration in October 2018, as well as the launch of our community memory bank, Commons Archive. We often have requests for historical information or images about Emeryville. We have a collection of the wonderfully researched newsletters from the Emeryville Historical Society (EHS), which has a wide array of articles on diverse topics. But, what's missing is an easily accessible online resource of historic photos. The EHS Digital Photo Archive will fill that need. Golden Gate patrons, as well as researchers at the Main Library's Oakland History Room and throughout the Bay Area, will benefit greatly from such a resource.

The Oakland Public Library and the Emeryville Historical Society have intertwined stories. EHS co-founders Don Hausler and Nancy Smith are former Oakland Public Library employees, and Don worked with the East Bay Negro Historical Society when it was housed at Golden Gate. Dozens of Emeryville exhibits and programs have launched at the Oakland History Room, in partnership with EHS. Golden Gate hosts EHS for their board meetings, and EHS was a popular guest at our centennial block party last fall.

Emeryville packs a lot of fascinating history into its tiny borders, and it is clear that people are curious about this history. This digitization project will bring to light vital primary sources, exponentially expanding access to these historic images and educating the public. I've seen firsthand the impact that primary source research can have on artists, writers, performers, and storytellers, and I am excited to see what our creative community does with this photo archive.

Sincerely,

Erin Sanders  
Branch Manager, Golden Gate Branch Library  
Oakland Public Library  
5606 San Pablo Ave.  
Oakland, CA 94608