## PUBLIC SPEAKER CARDS FOR 6/25/07 AND 7/16/07 CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS – RAISING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

Agenda Report

### A COPY OF ATTACHMENT 4 (SPEAKER CARDS) IS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AND MAIN LIBRARY

### CAL TECH GRADUATE STUDENTS IN SUPPORT OF FLOAT

Agenda Report

### 加州理工学院中国同学会 CALTECH CHINESE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

WWW.ITS.CALTECH.EDU/~CHINESE

Jie Cheng

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August 7, 2007

Mr. Ken Hardy Pasadena Human Relations Commission 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Suite 140 Pasadena, CA 91109-7215

Re: Beijing Olympics Float in the 2008 Rose Parade

Thank you for this opportunity to share our views on the Beijing Olympics float in the 2008 Rose Parade.

As students at Caltech, we appreciate what Pasadena has to offer to our life beyond the world of rocket science, molecular biology and number crunching. We truly know what is great about living in Pasadena. Every year thousands of people travelled from all over the world to see the Rose Parade, and we are only five minutes walk away. In addition, we have always marveled at not only the creativity but also the variety of floats featured in the Rose Parade. Having floats from many different cultures, regions and countries epitomizes the global vision of Pasadena. We believe it is this vision that adds to Pasadena's reputation as a world-class city with great neighborhoods.

A few months ago we were thrilled at the news that the 2008 Rose Parade would feature a float celebrating the 2008 Beijing Olympics. We admire the organizer's effort to share the Olympic vision, which is to foster friendship and a spirit of cooperation among nations and help build a peaceful and better world. The 2008 theme of the Rose Parade, "Passport to the World's Celebrations", perfectly echoes the Beijing Olympics slogan, "One World, One Dream".

It has recently been brought to our attention that some local Falun Gong practitioners have different views. We understand that they are one of the many voices in China, and we feel the responsibility to make our own voice heard as well, a voice which we believe represents the majority of Chinese students and scholars in the US. Whereas we respect their right to express ideas, we believe the theme of the float is the Olympics but not politics, and thus any reaction with strong political implications is inappropriate. By supporting the Beijing Olympics float in the 2008 Rose Parade, we are highlighting our belief that the goal of Rose parade, just like that of the Olympics, is to bring people together but not to set them apart.

Sincerely,

Jie Cheng

## SPEAKER CARDS FOR THOSE RAISING HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS AT 8/7/07 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

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# SPEAKER CARDS FOR OTHER FLOAT SUPPORTERS AT 8/7/07 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

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