City Clerk's Office
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Arts Commission
City of Milpitas

March 28, 2016

City Council
City of Milpitas

Dear City Council:

Over the years, the Milpitas Arts Commission has received propositions from numerous individuals and groups that wanted to perform or present programs or events in Milpitas, that require larger venues or a longer-term commitment than Milpitas' existing buildings could accommodate. Therefore, our commission has had to forego these opportunities, so the Arts Commission is compelled to appeal to the City Council to make a priority, the planning and funding of a Milpitas Center for Performing Arts.

The City of Milpitas does not have a suitable building with adequate space to accommodate top-rate theatrical, musical, or other large projects. Just last month, a group made a proposition to the Arts Commission for a fine arts project that would enrich the Milpitas community and give exposure to our city; however, a building was needed weekends, over the course of six months. The Arts Commission members explored every possible location that might accommodate this project, and were resigned to realize that there was no location available. All locations considered would require an expense for manpower to open, stay during the event, and then lock the facility afterwards, rendering such a proposition unaffordable. Consequently, this group will most likely submit their proposition to Sunnyvale or Mountain View, who can accommodate them in their performing arts centers.

Finally, a Center For Performing Arts would attract celebrities, notable speakers and other performers that demand a larger audience, and thus, would add great value to the city of Milpitas. At our last Arts Commission meeting, it was brought to our attention that the creation of a Milpitas Center for Performing Arts was the key purpose of the Arts Commission's formation in October, 2000. We implore you to finally make this dream a reality, while there is still some undeveloped land that can be allocated to such a structure. We fear that this is a now-or-never proposition. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Milpitas Arts Commission
Becky Strauss – Chair

Cc: Tom Williams, City Manager
Mary Lavelle, City Clerk