Chinatown

Angelina Yu
Senior Community Organizer
Chinatown

- Mixed-use commercial corridor
  - Residential top units
  - ‘Farmers’ markets
  - Restaurants
- Seniors Aging in Place
- Hub for Asian Americans
- Tourism is a vital part of economic development: what version of Chinatown is portrayed or preserved through tourism?
Chinatown

**Slides 2-3:** How is cultural/social heritage manifested in your community? What kinds of cultural/social heritage resources are in your neighborhood (i.e. businesses, cultural institutions, festivals, etc.)? Include some specific examples with photos of each. Examples should be diverse (i.e. variety of types – not only buildings)

- **Community/Civic Organizations**—building strong networks
  - Network of D3 CBO’s (ie Chinatown CDC)
  - Family Associations

- **Festivals**—celebrating traditions and spurring economic development
  - Lunar New Year Fair/Parade
  - Community Fair
  - Autumn Moon Festival
  - Arts in the Alleyway

- **Cultural Institutions**—historical, contemporary & the personal
  - Chinese Cultural Center (CCC)
  - Chinese Historical Society of America (CHSA)
  - In Search of Roots

- **Youth Programs**—building a culture of leadership and Chinatown as a hub
  - YMCA
  - YWCA
  - Cameron House

- **Institutions**
  - Gordon J. Lau Elementary
  - Chinese Hospital
  - Chinese Language Schools*

- **Open Space**
  - Portsmouth Square
  - Betty Ann Ong Chinese Rec Center
  - Woh Hei Yuen
  - Chinese Playground

- **Senior Facilities**
  - Self Help for the Elderly
  - On Lok

- **Active Resident Leadership Base**
  - Community Tenant Associations (CTA)
  - Ping Yuen Resident Improvement Association (PYRIA)
  - SRO Family Collaborative
Community ‘Display’ of Culture::
Our Living History

Chinatown Alleyway Tours (CATs)

Annual Work-a-thon, hosted by Adopt-An-Alleyway (AAA)

Alleyways as front door and playground
‘Preserving’ Living Experiences through Oral History

Using the tour as a platform for documenting resident experiences, community needs through the lens of young people who have roots in the neighborhood.
**Slides 4-5:** What kinds of cultural/social heritage resources are threatened (if any)? In what way are they threatened? What factors are causing them to be threatened? Please describe both resource types and specific examples (2-3) with visuals of each.

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<tr>
<th>Housing :: Community Fabric</th>
<th>Small family-owned immigrant businesses</th>
<th>SPACE</th>
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| >60% housing stock is single-room-occupancy (SRO) residential hotels | • Aging building stock  
• Soaring commercial rent  
• Density/diversity of businesses | • Facilities for people to interact organically & ‘living room of Chinatown’ |
Our Approach to Address Threats

Grassroots Approach: It’s about empowering residents to envision change themselves!
Slide 10: What needs are not being met? In your opinion, what can/should be done to meet these needs?