



January 8, 2007

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The Honorable Marty Blum
and Members of the Redevelopment Agency
City of Santa Barbara
City Hall
PO Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1990

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SANTA BARBARA, CA**

RE: Additional Grant Request for the Granada Theatre Restoration Project

Dear Chair Blum and Redevelopment Agency Members:

I strongly support the request from Council Members Horton and Falcone for an additional \$500,000 grant to the Granada Theatre Restoration project. The community has expressed its support for this project by the way of contributions beyond those of the Redevelopment Agency of approximately \$35 million, an amount virtually unprecedented by any local fundraising effort.

This additional grant will greatly assist us in reaching our \$41 million total by the end of March, at which point we will be eligible for a \$1.8 million grant from the Kressge Foundation.

The importance of a high quality performing arts facility in the City of Santa Barbara goes without saying. We, along with every other major building project in our community, have seen the challenge of escalating building costs. Your grant for the additional \$500,000 would match those of four other community-minded citizens who have committed that amount to this exceptional project.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely yours,

MICHAEL TOWBES

/bjr