

Translation into English:

Dear our community members:

This year is the 35th year that our Vietnamese community in Westminster as well as other Vietnamese communities all over the world will commemorate Black April. This is an opportunity for us to look back at the past, and help our younger generations who are born and raised in the U.S. to understand their identity, so they will continue to fight for freedom and democracy in Vietnam.

We, who are Vietnamese Council members of Westminster, wrote this letter to our community in order to present several issues related to the Black April Event this year, which will take place at the Westminster War memorial.

As you may know, this Black April Event is facing challenges due to the disagreement on the date, time and location of the event. One side, organized by some associations, organizations; the other side by Supervisor Janet Nguyen. Both sides chose the same date and location on April 30, 2010 at the Westminster War Memorial.

At the meeting of the Westminster City Council on March 24th, Mayor Margie Rice has delegated Mr. Don Lamm, our City Manager, to arrange the meeting with both sides and try to find the best solution to commemorate Black April this year.

Our point of view is that Black April is a sad event for our whole community; therefore, the commemoration must include all the voice of the Vietnamese refugees. Thus, the Black April commemoration will become the strength and the voice of the Vietnamese Overseas Community once the community can work together, unifying in harmony.

We, the Vietnamese Council members, respectfully request all the associations and the Office of Supervisor Janet Nguyen to put aside all differences, so that you can sit down and work together to organize this historic event.

To mark the 35th Black April, our community cannot go without a solemn ceremony at the Westminster War Memorial on April 30th with the participation of all members of our Community in the Little Saigon.

As Vietnamese City Council members, we do not want Westminster to be in the position to have to take sides. Please work together so we can have a worthy Black April commemorate in a unifying spirit and to demonstrate our determination to fight against the Communist tyranny.

Sincerely,

Tyler Diep Mien Truong
City Councilmember

Ta Duc Tri
City Councilmember

Andy Quach
City Councilmember