



CHINESE SOCIETY BUILDINGS MATCHING GRANT ALLOCATIONS

GRANTS FOR CHINESE SOCIETY BUILDINGS WITH
HERITAGE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, OR CULTURAL
ASSETS IN CHINATOWN & THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

December 17, 2014

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. Recommendation
2. Background
3. Overview
4. Context
5. Matching Grant Program
6. Grant Allocations

RECOMMENDATION

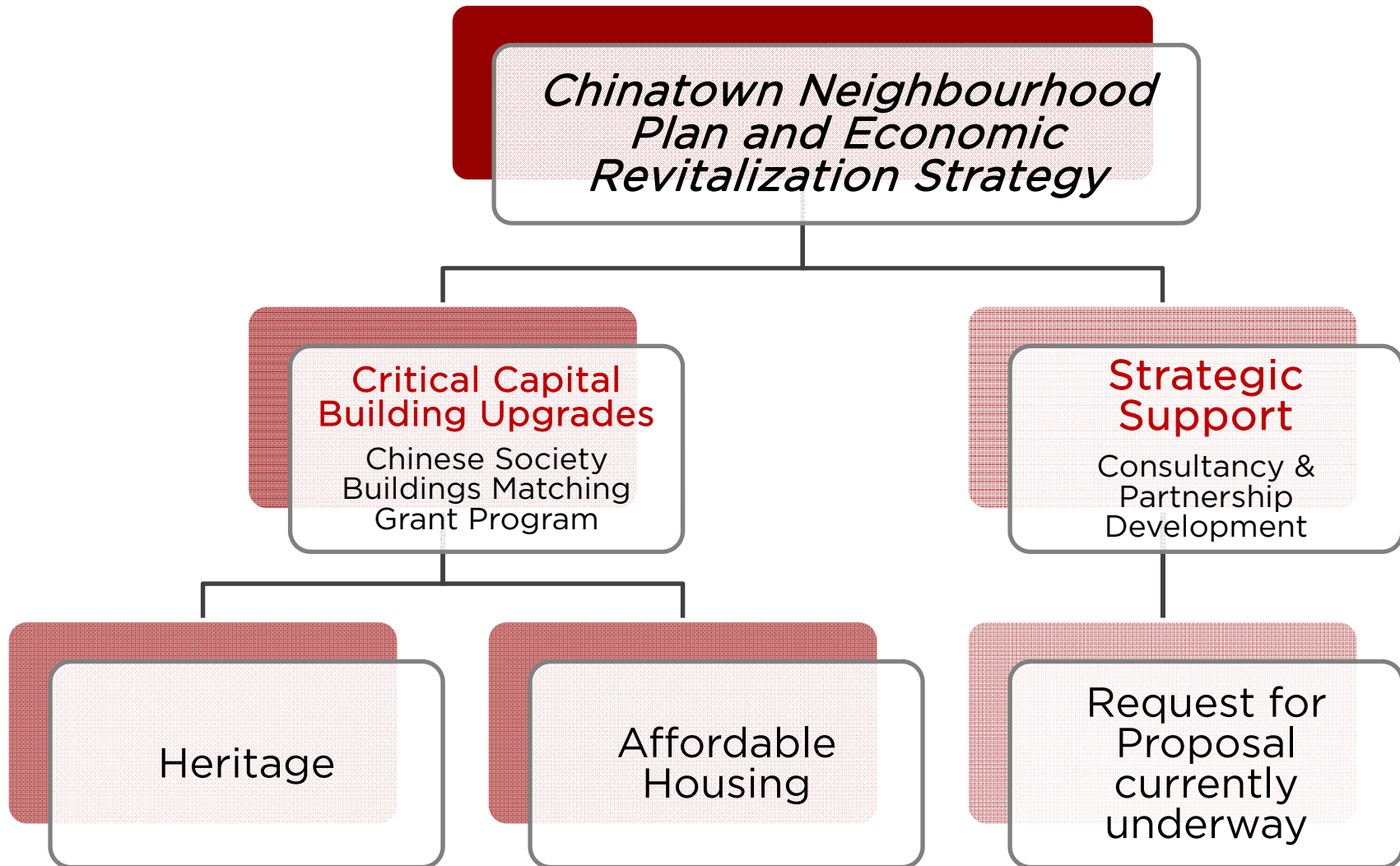
A. THAT Council approve the allocation of \$1,160,000 to the Chinese Society non-profit organizations to strategically advance the revitalization of these important cultural, social, and heritage resources in Chinatown, and across the Downtown Eastside;

(Source of funds are \$1.238M CAC from 633 Main Street rezoning and \$0.9M from DTES Capital)

BACKGROUND

- *Chinatown Vision* (2002)
- *Society Heritage Buildings Rehabilitation Strategy* (2008)
- *Chinatown Society Buildings Planning Grant Program* (2008)
- *Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan and Economic Revitalization Strategy* (2012)
- Council directed staff to develop a **new fund to assist the Chinatown Society Heritage Building Association** with the critical rehabilitation of their buildings (March 2013)
- *Downtown Eastside Plan* (2014)
- *Chinese Society Buildings Matching Grant Program* and Strategic Support (June 2014)

OVERVIEW



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Grant Principles and Guidelines developed with the Chinese Benevolent Association, and Chinatown Society Heritage Buildings Association

17 applications (\$1.16M matching grants) for critical capital upgrades to non-profit Chinese Society buildings

Second round of applications in January 2015

CONTEXT - Cultural Anchors in a Changing Chinatown



Social hubs for the Chinese-Canadian community, particularly seniors and youth



Provide space for housing, office, recreation, and ground floor retail



Hold cultural activities and traditional festival celebrations

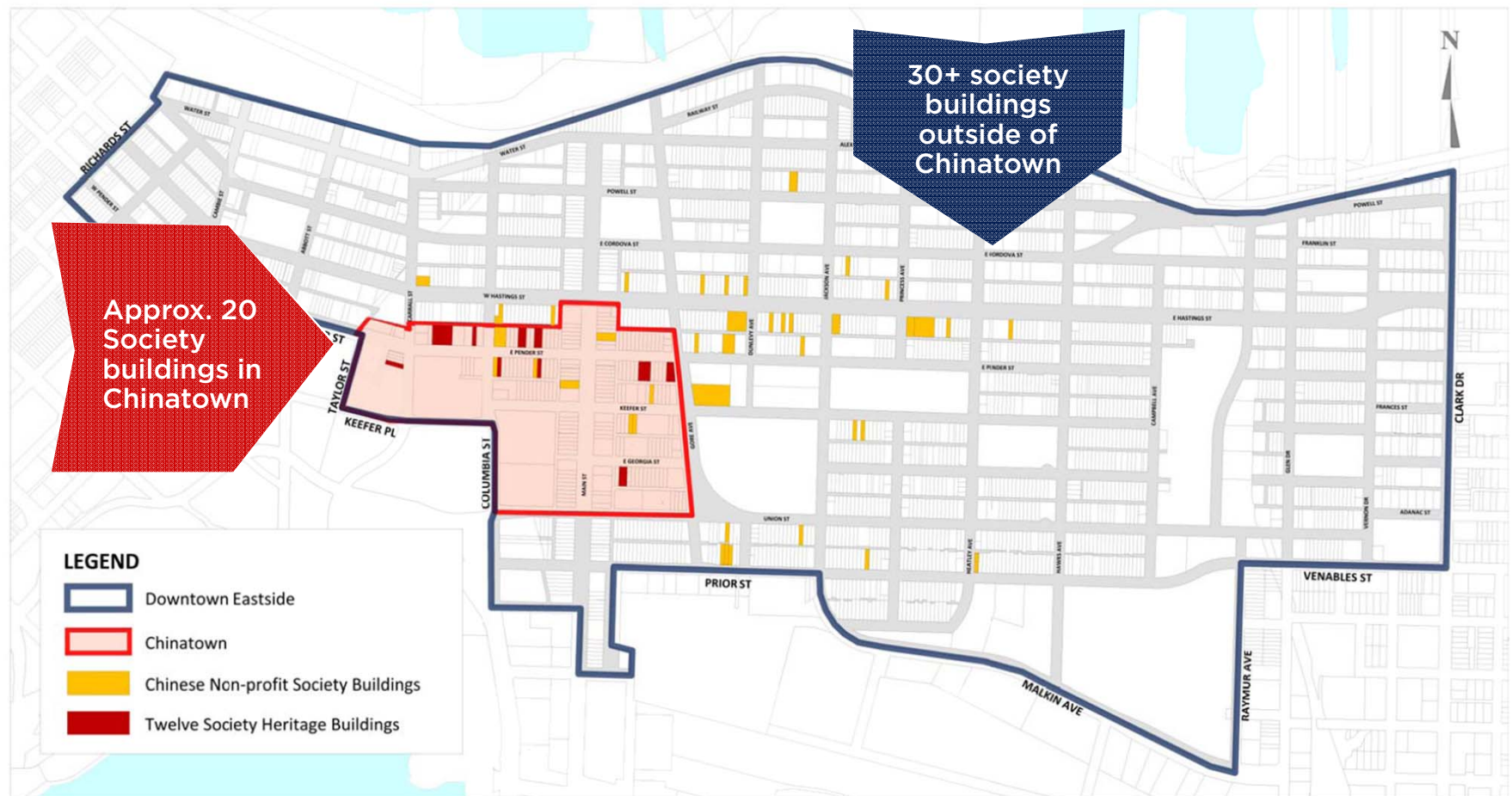


National headquarters, some with 1000+ members throughout Lower Mainland

Renewal of Society buildings is critical to ensure Societies continue to thrive and remain cultural anchors, preserving and fostering Chinese heritage and culture in Chinatown.

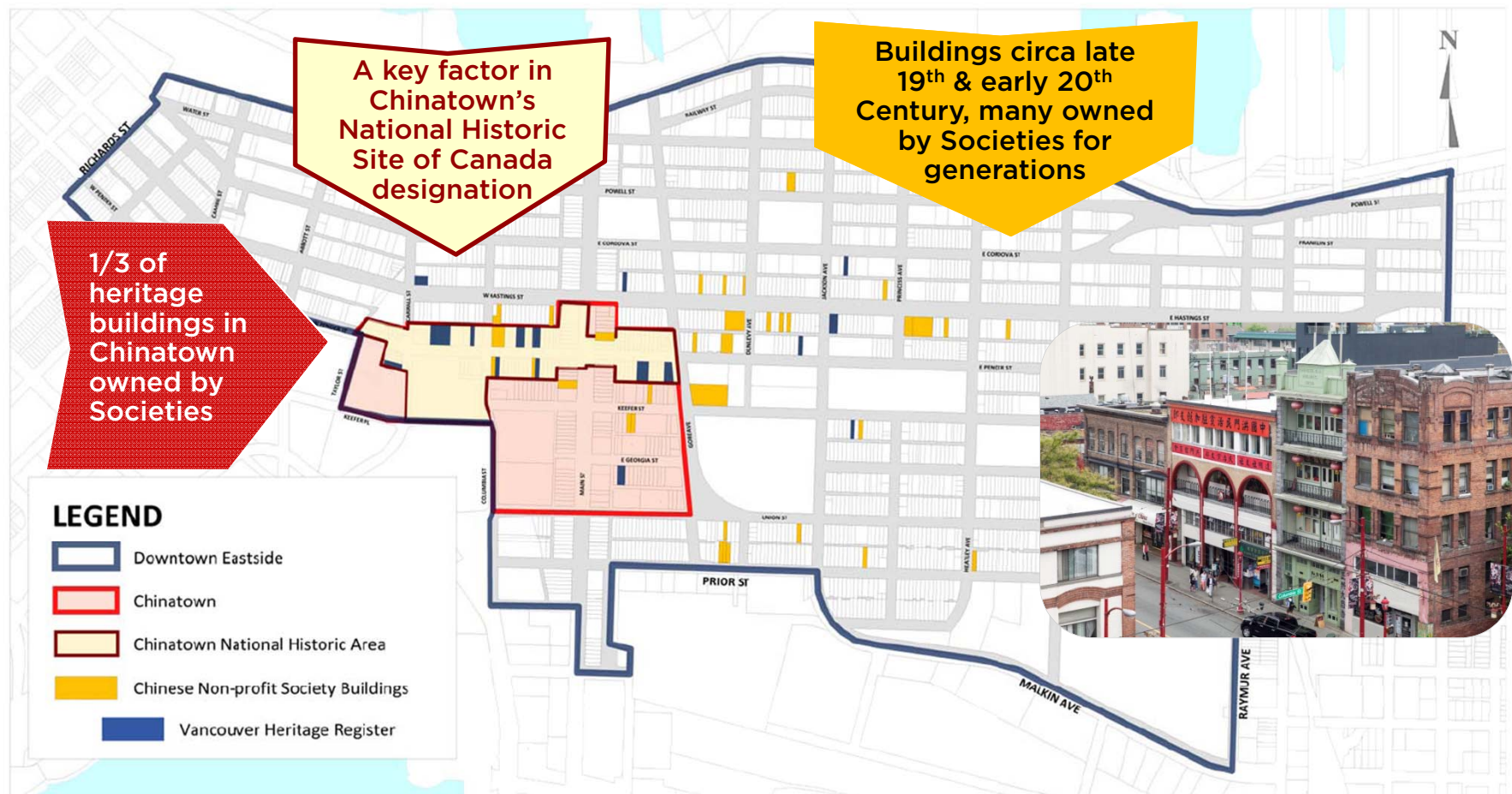
CONTEXT - DTES & Chinatown

Approximately 100 Chinese Societies in Vancouver, many that own property in and around Chinatown



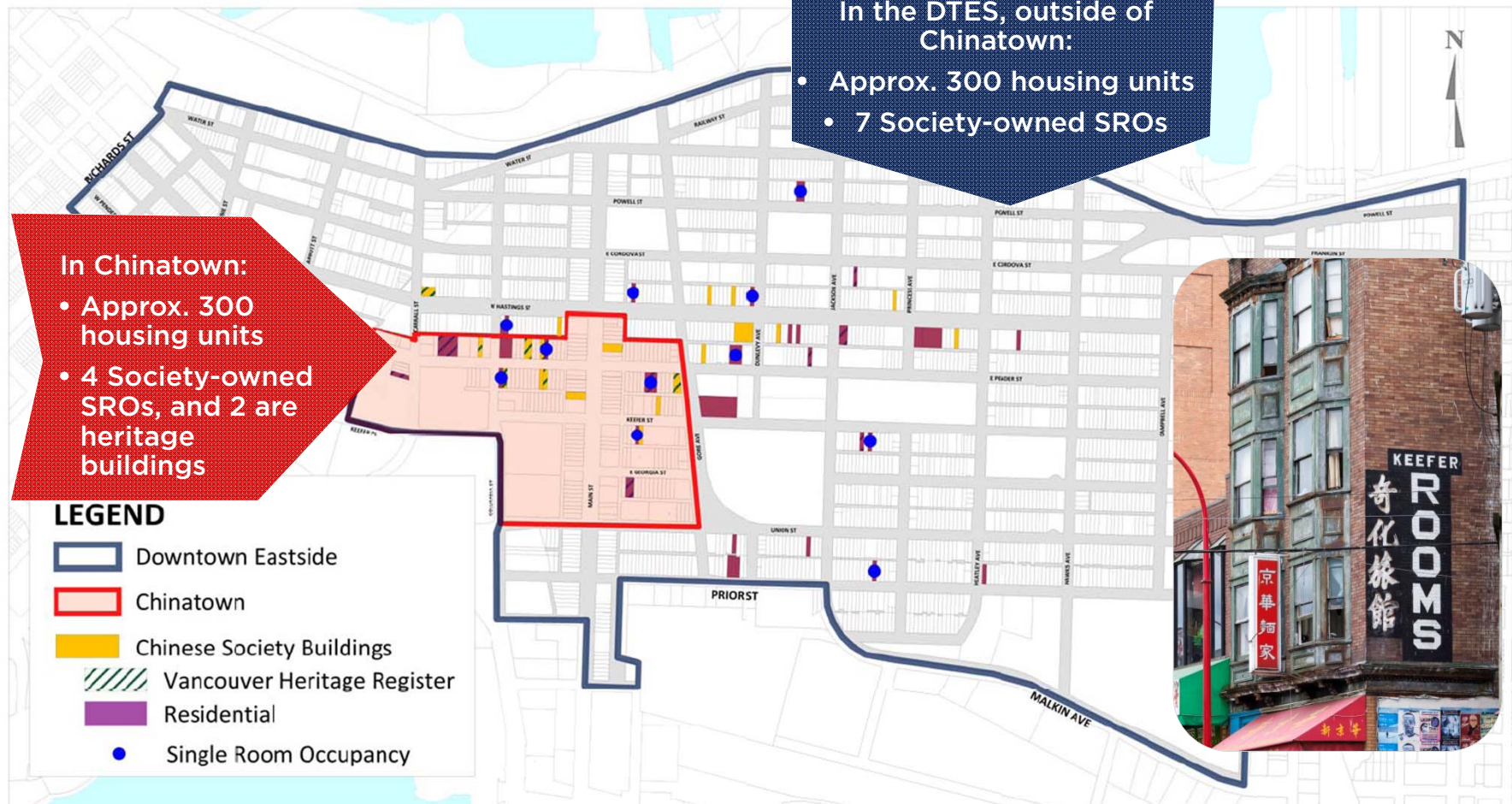
CONTEXT - Built Heritage Stewards

Societies are critical in preserving the unique cultural and heritage assets of local, national, and global significance.



CONTEXT – Providers of Rental Housing

Societies will continue to provide, or expand affordable housing in their buildings.



MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM - Eligibility and Priorities

Primary objective –support critical capital upgrades to buildings owned by Chinese family clan and benevolent societies

Eligibility Criteria

- Chinese family clan and benevolent society
- Registered non-profit society status
- Ownership by the Society of building in Chinatown or Downtown Eastside
- Commitment to cost-sharing arrangement of 50%

Priorities

- Capital upgrades to Society-owned buildings located in Chinatown or the DTES:
- Focus on work that enhances and extends the life of the building
 - Improves conditions and/or security of tenure of any affordable housing
 - Emphasis on buildings with heritage

MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM - Evaluation Process

- All applications were evaluated by an inter-departmental staff group, including Planning, Heritage and Housing.
- Eligibility criteria and the priorities approved by Council were used to determine the applications to be recommended for consideration
- Applicants were contacted for additional documentation and details where necessary

GRANT ALLOCATIONS – Application Highlights



17 Applications received for \$1,160,000



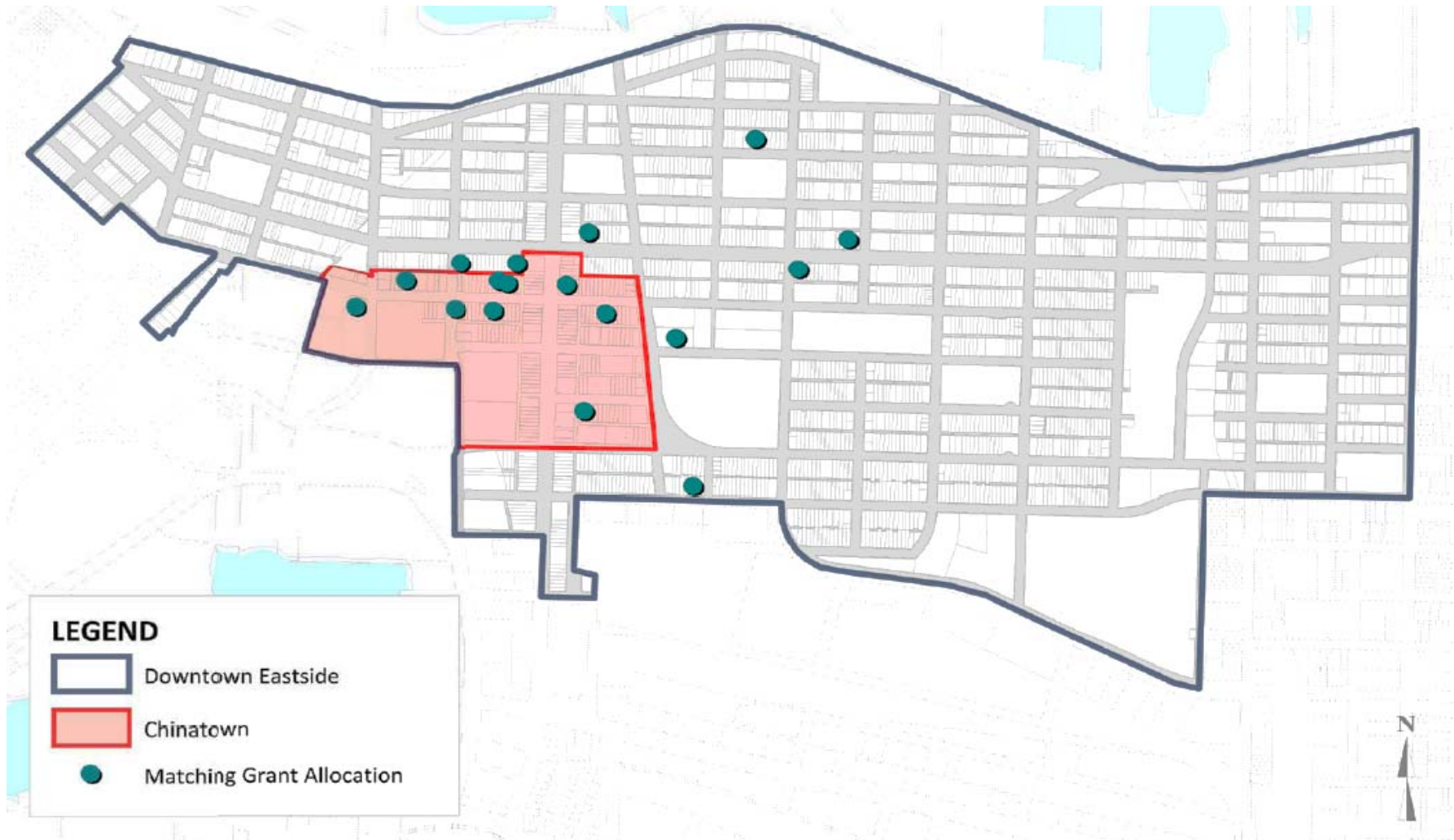
10 Societies provide affordable housing
(407 units, \$175 - \$670/month)

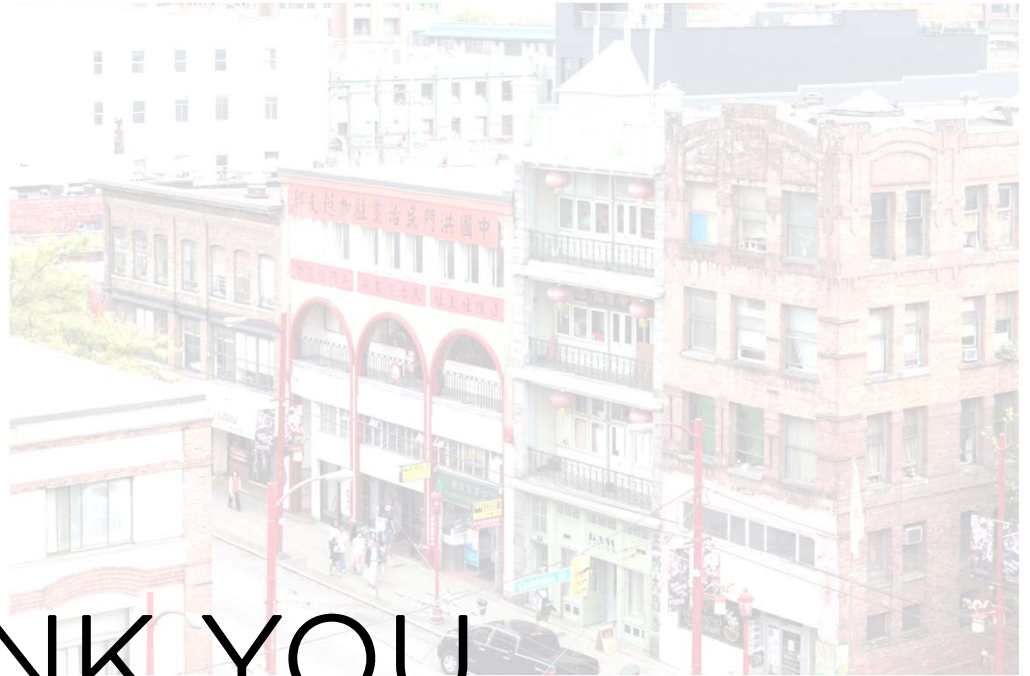
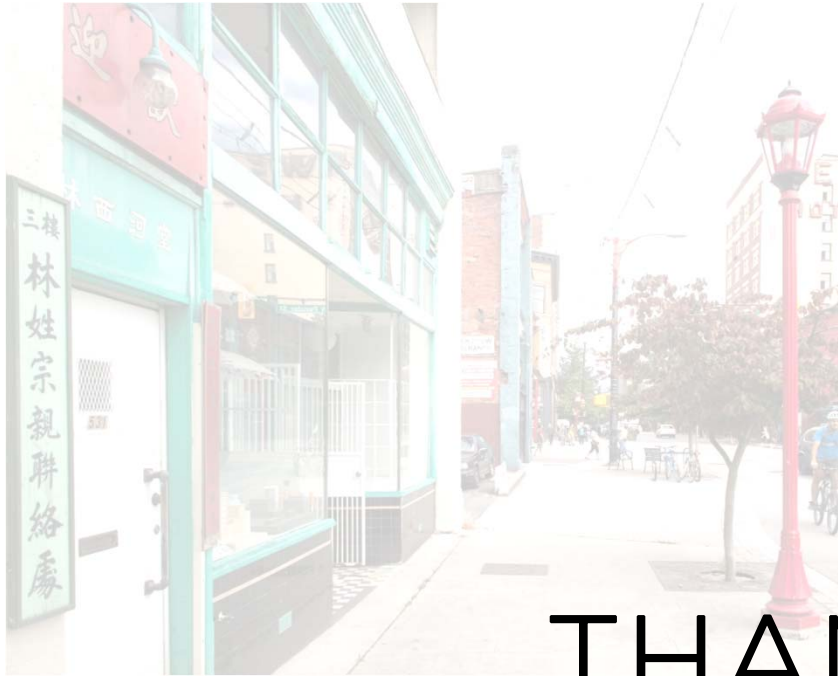


7 applications inside Chinatown with heritage
(many with housing) for \$735,000

GRANT ALLOCATIONS - Location of Applications

Location of matching grant applications





THANK YOU



MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM - Funding Streams

