

## WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE FOR OUR SLATE

We fought and won the incorporation battle. Over the past three years, we have attempted to make our City into a unified community. A most difficult task has been to convince the "Doubting Thomases" that the new City contained the essential leadership, the fiscal and human resources, and the support of its residents for it to be a viable, pulsating entity. We realized that the success or failure of the City depended upon us. We have taken responsibility for ourselves. Our City is still very young. Let's look honestly at the things we've attempted to do thus far:

When the City Council took office, the community called out, "DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE DRUG SALES ON OUR STREETS." This voice was loud and clear about the problem but not the solution. After extensive study of the issue, a plan to combat the destruction that was invading every aspect of our lives evolved; it is now being implemented. Of course, we realized that the street drug sales were just a symptom of much broader and pervasive problems. Among these were inferior education, inadequate or non-existent employment opportunities, and insufficient recreational facilities. Therefore, the solution had to be comprehensive enough to address these broader issues. Some programs to accomplish this follow:

- We established a Police Department solely responsible to the community it serves; it provides a persistent, consistent visible law enforcement presence in our neighborhoods and on our streets.

We recognized that not all the drug dealers were from out of town - Oakland, San Jose, Redwood City, or San Mateo; some of them were our own or our neighbors' children. We were also aware of the statistics that showed that arresting them was not the solution. It will take a combined effort of the community, the police department, the schools, the churches, and the families to reclaim our children from the corners.

- We established the Public Works Department to clean up our streets, to maintain our buildings and parks, and to deliver an improved level of services which fall under its jurisdiction. We renovated the Bell Street gymnasium and cleaned up our thoroughfares and vacant lots.

- We established the Community Development Department of which one of its responsibilities is the development of plans for the economic growth of our City. We still have a very long way to go in this category; however, we are pleased that plans for the orderly development of our community are in place.

- We established the Community Services Department which is charged with developing policies that meet the day-to-day human needs requirements of the community. Under its aegis are three commissions: Human Services, Arts and Culture, and Parks and Recreation.

A few of the programs under this department are:

o The Tutorial Program. More than 70% of our children are dropping out of the Sequoia High School District's schools. If we cannot do anything about this catastrophic dropout rate, everything else we do will be fruitless because these children represent our future. There is both drop-in and regularly scheduled tutorial programs using volunteer tutors from the community and also from Stanford University.

o The Teen Club. A supervised group of teens with teen officers. This activity gives the teens an opportunity to develop confidence and leadership skills; there are dances, trips, etc.

o Recreational and Cultural Enrichment Programs. Included among the activities are dance, drama, art, and music programs. Several cultural programs and events have been held including Juneteenth, Cinco de Mayo, the Lagos Dance Troupe from Nigeria, and notable speakers. These programs help promote civic pride in the community and helps residents to really feel confident that WE ARE MOVING UP!

Our basic message is that we kept our campaign promises. We promised that no one would lose a home because of incorporation; to date, no one has; we promised a first rate professional law enforcement entity. our police department is the embodiment of this promise; We said we had the fiscal resources to provide a level of municipal services superior to that which we were then receiving; we were right! Not only has the service level improved but last year our ending fund balance exceeded \$1,700,000.00!!