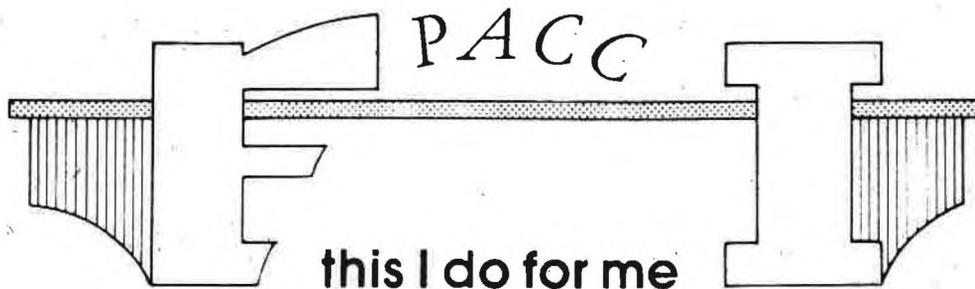


**COMMITTEES:**  
Incorporation Application  
Community Mobilization  
Public Information  
Fundraising



PROPOSAL LETTER

SUBMITTED BY: EAST PALO ALTO CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE ON INCORPORATION

East Palo Alto is a mostly Black, low-income community in San Mateo County about halfway between San Francisco and San Jose. It is 2.5 square miles in size and has a population of 19,000 residents. Since East Palo Alto is not a city (unincorporated), it is governed by the San Mateo Board of Supervisors.

During the past three decades, East Palo Alto has had the following major problems: (1) loss of valuable land to nearby cities through annexations resulting in a smaller tax base; (2) control by an external government which has not responded to its pressing needs; (3) lack of service coordination and poor local services; and (4) lack of community development which brings jobs and businesses to the community. Because of growing community problems, a steady decline in the quality of life, and poor governmental services, residents have been involved in a three-year struggle to incorporate a new city.

Incorporation means establishing a new city and electing a local City Council as the governing authority. With incorporation comes local autonomy, responsibility for community planning, control over city services, and more accountable elected officials.

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EAST PALO ALTO CITIZENS' COMMITTEE ON INCORPORATION  
P.O. BOX 50624 • EAST PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA 94303 • (415) 327-5846

**DON'T HESITATE LET'S INCORPORATE**