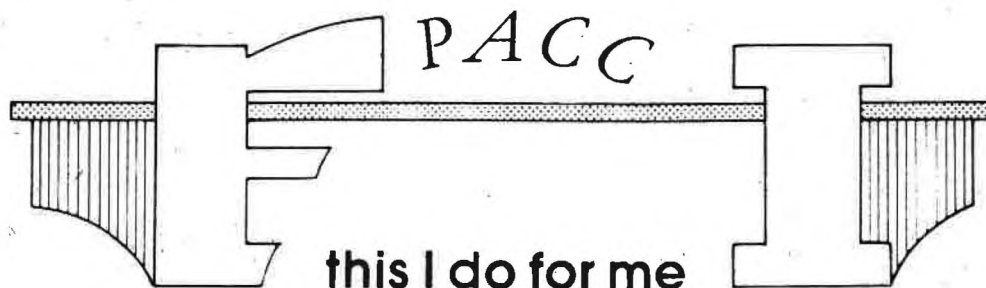


COMMITTEES:
Incorporation Application
Community Mobilization
Public Information
Fundraising



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.

EAST PALO ALTO CITIZENS' COMMITTEE ON INCORPORATION
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