

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I bring you greetings from the City of East Palo Alto. On July 1, 1983, the City officially came into being. It is alive and well!

As an outgrowth of a lawsuit initiated and bankrolled by absentee owners of large apartment houses and complexes and land developers, Judge John Cruikshank, on September 14, 1983, issued a landmark decision confirming the passage of Proposition "A" - the incorporation of the community - and the election of four of the top five candidates to the East Palo Alto City Council.

The selection of a city manager should be completed by the end of December; additionally, the selection of a permanent city attorney should be made around that time. City business is now being carried on by an interim city manager, an interim city clerk, and an interim city attorney.

Perhaps you have noticed that many of the derelict vehicles which were parked on our streets have been towed away. An ordinance abating public nuisances will be in effect by November 30, 1983. Its enactment will allow the City to clean up properties, vacant or occupied, on which exists a violation of the health or safety codes when the property owner fails to abate the situation. It seems as if the pressure being applied to decrease or eliminate criminal activity on our streets has begun to have an effect. Peddlers of contraband substances are not as visible as they once were. Eradicating criminal activity in our community will necessitate the involvement of all of us. My hope is that those citizens who have not already made this commitment will do so in the near future.

A series of conferences were held in September to acquaint community residents with various aspects, responsibilities, and benefits of cityhood; citizens were encouraged to participate in all facets of the decision making process. Meetings are planned for various constituencies in the community; an excellent meeting was recently held with the ministers of the community.

Our financial picture continues to be very positive. We have adequate funds to not only continue to provide essential services to residents of the community but to improve the levels of those services.

As stated before, the City is alive and well! The City is about its business of protecting citizens, addressing their needs, and providing the framework through which community residents will be able to experience as much of the 'good life' as is possible.

Peace

Barbara A. Mouton