

HONORABLE COMMISSION:

ON BEHALF OF THE EAST PALO ALTO CITIZENS' COMMITTEE ON INCORPORATION, I WOULD LIKE TO BRIEFLY ADDRESS YOUR HONORABLE COMMISSION AND CALL TO YOUR ATTENTION WHAT WE BELIEVE IS AN OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF EVIDENCE FAVORING AN INCORPORATION "SPHERE OF INFLUENCE" FOR THE EAST PALO ALTO COMMUNITY.

FIRST, THERE IS THE QUESTION OF THE FISCAL FEASIBILITY OF INCORPORATION. CERTAINLY, IT IS OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE THAT EVERY -- I SAID EVERY -- RECENT FINANCIAL STUDY RECOMMENDS THE INCORPORATION OF EAST PALO ALTO, BOTH THE SRI INTERNATIONAL STUDY AND THE ANGUS McDONALD STUDY CLEARLY RECOMMEND INCORPORATION. THE SAN MATEO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH BY ANGUS McDONALD, WHICH CONFIRMS THE CONCLUSIVENESS OF McDONALD'S RECOMMENDATION. ALSO, THE RECENT RECHT STUDY STATES THAT THERE WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL NEW REVENUES FROM DEVELOPMENT IN EAST PALO ALTO. THE EXPERTS HAVE SPOKEN. INCORPORATION IS FISCALLY FEASIBLE.

NEXT, THERE IS THE QUESTION OF WHO SUPPORTS INCORPORATION. PLEASE CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

THE NATIONAL BLACK POLITICAL ASSEMBLY, THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BLACK MAYORS, THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF BLACK LEADERSHIP, AND THE BLACK AMERICAN POLITICAL ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA, CHAIRED BY SPEAKER WILLIE BROWN, HAVE STRONGLY ENDORSCED INCORPORATION.

ALL OF THE FEDERAL AND STATE PUBLIC OFFICIALS REPRESENTING OUR COMMUNITY -- ALL OF THEM -- FAVOR INCORPORATION, THIS INCLUDES CONGRESSMAN PETE McCLOSKEY,

SENATOR MARZ GARCIA AND ASSEMBLYMAN BYRON SHER.

SIX CITY COUNCILS IN SAN MATEO COUNTY HAVE PASSED RESOLUTIONS FAVORING INCORPORATION -- HILLSBOROUGH, PACIFICA, DALY CITY, SAN MATEO, HALF MOON BAY, AND MENLO PARK. THE PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL ALSO PASSED A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR INCORPORATION. THE RAVENSWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, RAVENSWOOD RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT, AND THE EAST PALO ALTO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY FAVOR INCORPORATION.

THE SAN MATEO AFL-CIO CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL SUPPORTS INCORPORATION AS WELL AS THE SAN MATEO DOMESTIC WORKERS UNION.

WITH BUT ONE EXCEPTION, ALL OF THE PUBLISHED COMMENTS CONTAINED IN THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT EITHER OPPOSE ANNEXATION TO PALO ALTO AND MENLO PARK, OR FAVOR INCORPORATION.

IN THE LAFCo PUBLIC HEARINGS, VIRTUALLY ALL WHO HAVE COMMENTED, EXCEPT FOR SOME OF THE PERSONS WHO ARE DIRECTLY AFFILIATED WITH THE WEST OF BAYSHORE, HAVE OPPOSED ANNEXATION AND/OR FAVORED INCORPORATION. THIS INCLUDES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS, DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND CONCERNED CITIZENS.

MOST OF THE COMMUNITY AGENCIES, CHURCHES AND GROUPS IN EAST PALO ALTO SUPPORT INCORPORATION. MANY BUSINESSES IN EAST PALO ALTO SUPPORT INCORPORATION INCLUDING NINETEEN BUSINESSES WEST OF BAYSHORE.

MOST OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS SUPPORT INCORPORATION. AND MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED RESIDENTS WEST OF BAYSHORE HAVE SIGNED CERTIFICATES OF ENDORSEMENT.

THE PUBLIC HAS SPOKEN WITH A RESOUNDING, ALMOST UNANIMOUS VOICE. THE PUBLIC HAS SPOKEN FOR INCORPORATION.

INCORPORATION IS FISCALLY FEASIBLE! AND THE PUBLIC SUPPORTS INCORPORATION.

WE URGE THAT YOUR HONORABLE COMMISSION ADOPT AN INCORPORATION SPHERE OF INFLUENCE FOR THE WHOLE OF EAST PALO ALTO. WE AIM TO PULL TOGETHER ALL OF OUR LOCAL LEADERSHIP TO BUILD A GREAT CITY THAT THE RESIDENTS, THE COUNTY, THE STATE AND THE NATION CAN TO BE PROUD OF.