

East Palo Alto Municipal Council



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

MUNICIPAL CENTER • 2415 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, EAST PALO ALTO, CA 94303

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

HENRY E. ANTHONY
A. BERKLEY DRIESEL
BARBARA A. MOUTON
BRADFORD STAMPER
GERTRUDE WILKS

VICTOR V. JAMES, JR.
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

(415) 324-1308

January 5, 1983

Dear Friends:

America is experiencing the worst social and economic situation since the bleak days of the 1929 depression. Things are slated to get worse: witness the cutbacks and rollbacks Reagan is making; also pay careful attention to the recent actions of the new governor, George Deukmejian. In order to try to bring the state (and federal) budgets into some semblance of balance, it will be East Palo Alto, and communities like it, that will bear the brunt. Our unemployment is now around 35% and still rising.

I believe the only way East Palo Alto will be able to make it through is to unite the various groups and entities in the community into a coalition aimed at incorporating ourselves into a city. As a city, we will be able to make the decisions on how those monies generated by our demographics and assessments -- property taxes, subvention monies, vehicle in-lieu monies, sales taxes, to name a few -- are to be spent. When cuts have to be made, WE WILL MAKE THE DECISIONS; and we'll do it in a way that will be in the community's best interests.

If we truly believe in ourselves -- that we have the intelligence to make informed decisions and initiate positive actions in our own best interest, that we have the integrity to function responsibly and soundly as a governmental entity, that we have the indomitability to go over, under, or around whatever barriers might obstruct our development and progress, and lastly, that we have the imagination to be creative, to be ourselves, to really be human, then you know that our only option is to coalesce and become a City. ARE YOU WILLING?

Sincerely,

Mrs. Barbara Mouton