

FOR: EPACCI Review,  
Revision + Updating,  
at 11/10/81 Meeting.

EAST PALO ALTO CITIZENS' COMMITTEE ON INCORPORATION

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"SOME KEY INCORPORATION QUESTIONS (EPA)"

MLP:10/21/80

Revised:10/22/80

Second Revision: 12/05/80

Some Key Incorporation Questions (EPA)

QUESTION #1: Does East Palo Alto have a large enough tax base to support itself when incorporation occurs?

RESPONSE #1: -Yes!

- The Stanford Research Institute (SRI) has made a fiscal analysis (Nov. 6, 1980), showing that East Palo Alto, after incorporation, will have revenues in amounts large enough to support itself as an independent city.
- Taxes currently paid out by East Palo Alto residents are now going to the county coffers, to be expended on a county-wide basis. When incorporation occurs, all taxes collected will be used in East Palo Alto alone.
- Subvention monies now coming into the county and being distributed by the county will come directly to East Palo Alto after it is incorporated. (Re.: alcohol & tobacco taxes).
- Revenue sharing monies from the Federal Government now coming into the county and being distributed by the county will be shared with East Palo Alto on a more equitable basis after it is incorporated.
- All Federal and State Entitlement Funds now coming into the county and being distributed by the county will be shared with East Palo Alto on a more equitable basis after it is incorporated.
- Lastly, unless East Palo Alto is able to support itself with its current income, the County Board of Supervisors will not vote approval for incorporation.

QUESTION #2: Will incorporation cause me to have to move? I am on a moderate fixed income.

RESPONSE #2: -No!

- Just as with any other municipality, if citizens should have the need for subsidized rents, the incorporated City of East Palo Alto will participate in a rent subsidy program.

QUESTION #3: How will incorporation help me?

- RESPONSE #3:
- Incorporation will provide for better fire, recreation, police and other government related services.
  - Incorporation will provide for monies generated by the City of East Palo Alto to keep monies generated -- thereby providing a broader employment base for its residents.

QUESTION #4: What is incorporation?

- RESPONSE #4:
- Incorporation is being self-governing -- it is being able to change and guide your own destiny as an independent city.

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QUESTION #5: How will we keep "nepotism" from taking place after we incorporate East Palo Alto?

RESPONSE #5: -The City Charter of East Palo Alto could serve as a tool to establish that no acts of hiring relatives and friends on a "spoils system" basis will be able to occur.

QUESTION #6: How will incorporation effect our schools?

RESPONSE #6: -Incorporation should produce a healthier community environment for our schools. However, no direct control of public schools is under the jurisdiction of an incorporated municipality.

-Our public school system is run by a State entity, and is under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Education.

QUESTION #7: Will incorporation bring about better police services?

RESPONSE #7: -Yes!

-With a local police department, the incorporated City of East Palo Alto will have much better and responsive services -- with a local base of operation.

QUESTION #8: When will incorporation occur?

RESPONSE #8: -The East Palo Alto Citizens' Committee on Incorporation (EPACCI) has established November of 1981 as being the election time for putting the question of incorporation of East Palo Alto on the ballot for voter approval.

QUESTION #9: Who will run the new city? Will the same Municipal Council members remain in office?

RESPONSE #9: -When the question of incorporation is placed on the ballot, the question of who will run the city will also be included. You, the registered voter will determine who will run the incorporated City of East Palo Alto.

-Candidates for all offices will be placed on the ballot at the same time that the question of incorporation appears. You, the registered voter will determine who the officers will be for the incorporated City of East Palo Alto.

QUESTION #10: Will incorporation mean an increase in employment?

RESPONSE #10: -Yes!

-The incorporated City of East Palo Alto will have a need to hire personnel to work in the police, recreation, and other departments. Other municipal government jobs will also be available.

QUESTION #11: How much money will it take to initially run the new city -- say, for the first year or so?

RESPONSE #11: Operational costs as computed by SRI in its fiscal analysis of November 6, 1980, project how much it will cost to run the city.

-According to the SRI fiscal analysis, ample taxes, subventions, revenue sharing monies, and Federal and State Entitlement Funds are sufficient for operation of the independent City of East Palo Alto. City expenditures will not exceed city revenues.

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QUESTION #12: When East Palo Alto becomes incorporated, will my property be taken away to build or bring in new industries?

RESPONSE #12: -No!

-In no way does incorporation mean the displacement of people in favor of industry.

QUESTION #13: Will the incorporation of East Palo Alto raise my property taxes?

-No!

-Proposition 13 prohibits the arbitrary raising of property taxes. However, as the case presently is, re-assessment of property to a higher value causes the dollar amount of taxes to become inflated accordingly.

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QUESTION #14: How/Where can more information be obtained relative to the incorporation of East Palo Alto?

RESPONSE #14: You may call the EPACCI staff at 415/327-5846, or go by and visit the office located at 321 Bell Street, East Palo Alto.