League of Women Voters of San Diego

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SEPTEMBER 18, 1979

ELECTION EXTRA

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO

233 A Street, Suite 210, San Diego, California 92101

Seven Race for Mayor's Office

Voters in the City of San Diego will be choosing their Mayor who will serve a five-year term in a council-manager form of city government. It is a full-time position paying $25,000 per year salary. The position is for five years this term and thereafter will be a four year position.

Each candidate was asked to respond to the following questions:

1. ***What criteria are most important in your selection of individuals to serve on Boards and Commissions?***

2. ***To what extent should Centre City redevelopment be subsidized by the taxpayers of San Diego?***

Every effort has been made to preserve the ideas, concerns, priorities and context of answers where it was necessary to edit.

JERRY LESTER
Minister

Regarding criteria in selecting Board and Commission members:

1. Honesty and an ability to solve problems. No conflicts of interests would be tolerated. Age, sex, religion or political differences would not be hinderances.

2. Centre City Redevelopment should be accomplished by private money. Only in a case of a depression, and with the approval of the taxpayers, should public funds be used.

MICHAEL GOMEZ
Vocational Career Counselor

My platform and issues of concern do not surround the traditional issues of mayor candidates. Several problems facing San Diegans stem from unethical practices of many of the attorneys practicing here, as they instigate and encourage divorce and other immoral practices for monetary gain... resulting in a division of the family's community property, which includes selling the home. When the family home or base is abolished, the elderly or senior citizens are forced into nursing homes. A large percent of those liquidated assets goes to the attorney for legal fees. The products of their zealous practices are drug addiction,immorality, teenage prostitution and divorce.

I propose:

A citizens' committee to investigate and proseceute any attorney who has handled more than three divorces without a shown and concerted effort to reconciliate the couple.

I am in favor of endorsing Congressman Lionel Van Deerlin's proposed legislation requiring full medical and general benefits for the divorced wives of servicemen who have been married at least 20 years.

I am in favor of a law that will require a family to keep and support its elderly instead of placing them in nursing homes.

I favor requiring doctors to give the patient a written receipt of the patient's complaint and exact treatment rendered after each visit.

If elected Mayor, I intend to let the people of San Diego visit my office once a week. I expect them to bring to me their individual problems so that I can do my best to resolve them.

DR. JOHN KELLEY
Businessman

1. Criteria for selecting individuals to serve on boards and commissions:

a. Even-tempered, compassionate, patient people who can disagree without being disagreeable and be firm without being entirely inflexible.

b. Recommendations from previous employers and educators.

c. People who will not permit past or present political affiliations to influence their decision - but rather consider the best interests of **all** the citizens of San Diego.

d. Possess some good practical business sense.

2. Centre City redevelopment should be subsidized by the tax payers only to the extent that it will return revenue benefits and preserve essential services to all areas of the city.

It is Dr. Kelley's opinion that the present proposed subsidized redevelopment is too large and overly-ambitious and should be 50% or less of the present "give-away".

Dr. Kelley is not against Centre City development, as such, but does **not** believe in going "over-board" in giving "welfare" benefits to one geographical area of our economy to the neglect of other worthy areas. For example, subsides, for San Diego election reform-public funding of city elections - a financial "drop in the bucket" compared to the downtown redevelopment - so one doesn't have to be a fat cat or know a fat cat to get elected MAYOR!

RAUL GONZALEZ
Machinist, Trade Union Activist

1. Public boards and commissions should be staffed and led by people who are part of and represent the interests of working people. Too many "blue-ribbon" commissions are drawn from the profit-hungry owners of corporations. I would require that candidates for boards and commissions demonstrate their responsibility to the labor movement and the communities of oppressed minorities and women in San Diego.

2. The so-called "Centre City redevelopment" is in fact a giveaway to large corporations, which will result in mammoth bond issues, which always lead to increased taxes for working people. Such an urban redevelopment should be financed through corporate profits, beginning with the "defense" industry in San Diego.

SIMON CASADY
Publisher

1. My criteria are:

a. High ethical standards and no conflicts of interest;

b. Knowledge of the subject;

c. Representative of different communities.

I think it was unwise of the Mayor to appoint architect Homer Delawie with his developer clients to the Planning Commission; it decides land use in San Diego. Equally unwise was the appointment of John Davies, an attorney with developer clients, to the Planning Commission. It was unwise to appoint Oscar Padilla, a South Bay developer. It was certainly unethical for Commissioners Delawie and Padilla to form a partnership to speculate in land along the Mexican border. There are many San Diegans who have worked as professional planners and who have no conflicts of interest. They will be my appointees.

2. Before authorizing $228,000,000 in bond issues, the taxpayers should be given the right to vote on the matter. This bond issue will double the outstanding debt of the City and its agencies. I think the Mayor is wrong in opposing placing the matter on the ballot.

If the downtown project is completed there will be a need for greatly increased city services. The cost of these services will be borne by the taxpayers, not the downtown property owners.

The Centre City budget calls for $26,000,000 to be advanced from the City treasury. At the same time, the Mayor and the City Council denies the police a wage increase amounting to $1 million a year. I think it is wrong to cut city services while using taxpayer's money to subsidize developers.

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PETE WILSON
Mayor

My policy is to select the best qualified persons to serve on boards and commissions and the record shows success in bringing all elements of the community to the boards and commissions that advise the City Council. More individuals from the minority community and more women serve on boards and commissions than ever before in our history.

I have appointed individuals from the various geographic areas of the city to provide better balance and to give perspective on city problems.

I search for persons with expertise to serve on speciality advisory boards, always carefully avoiding potential conflicts-of-interest. Consequently, the public has been equitably represented in conducting the city's business.

That's the way it should be and will remain under a Pete Wilson administration.

This city offers opportunity few North American cities anywhere enjoy. Those cities that have been wise enough to recognize and deal with blight before it spreads are the success stories in the chronicles of American cities.

Cities are not static. They change for better or worse, but cities can be renewed. It requires vigorous, bold action, a commitment of resources, and a partnership between the private and public sectors. Downtown must pay its fair share of taxes so that your neighborhood doesn't have to carry an undue share of the load.

Aristotle said, "Men come to live together in cities to live the good life." I believe San Diego has the unique potential — by preserving the old and building the new — to prove Aristotle right.

CHARLOTTE BUCHANAN
Homemaker

1. To serve on boards and commissions I would want individuals who will/can listen and appraise a problem or situation, look at it from as many angles as possible for an immediate solution, as well as consider any long term effects that might be caused. I would want individuals who are knowledgeable and willing to take a stand (I would not want a "yes"-person). I would want the individuals to be highly moral, and intelligent and self-confident and desiring to render her/his services to benefit the city and its residents.

2. Centre City should be subsidized to the extent that the elctors of San Diego vote to subsidize that redevelopment with their taxes. It seems wrong to offer the current owners of downtown property what city representatives deem appropriate, "negotiate"; then condemn that property should the owner not accept the offer, and then the city "give" this property to a developer who views the project as not-feasible without this subsidy. Also, this seems like a poor time to undertake such a project in view of the present economic uncertainty, and especially without the citizens of this city having a say (vote) as to whether or not they are willing to take on such an increased indebtedness or/and the risk of default.

City Council Candidates

DISTRICT 2

Voters will be choosing representatives for City Council Districts 2, 4, 6 and 8. It is a full-time, four year position paying each councilperson $17,000 per year.

1. ***"The City Council makes decisions daily that affect housing in San Diego. What are your views regarding the existing policy to achieve economic diversity of housing? How would you further your position?***

2. ***What changes in Council procedures, if any, would you propose to provide for more timely and effective citizen involvement in the Council decision making process?"***

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AL BEST
Word Processing Salesperson

1. It's time the City offered subsidies and greater ease in the permit process to promote affordable housing. The council should not preclude from consideration the use of City-owned lands for such development. If City-owned lands are to be used, a plan by which title to the land remains with the City should be studies seriously.

It is important that any such development not be presented to the public as "public housing." Such housing would not, in fact, be public housing. An excellent example, albeit not of low and moderate cost housing, is the Irvine Ranch concept. Such a development concept has no possibility of success unless it is tied directly to a review of transit routes. Placing new housing near existing, or newly defined major transportation corridors, would allow for a change in both on and off-street parking requirements and would encourage fuel-saving public transit use.

2. Greater advertising of meeting-time and location.

Schedule those meetings of wide public interest on weekends or on weekday evenings, even if such a change does not, at first, seem to increase attendance.

JIM KELLY-MARKHAM
Architect, Community Activist

1. I support the development of low income housing by means of leasing City owned lands to private industry for the construction and management of low income apartment units. We must maintain and upgrade our present housing stock. I am opposed to the indiscriminate conversion of apartments to condominiums. In office I would seek to eliminate the high level of red tape required to accomplish leased development. I would manage more effectively redevelopment grant monies available to the City of San Diego. I would also co-author and support legislation to stop and support legislation to stop condominium conversions in areas with low vacancy factors.

2. I will support the adoption of new Council policies that provide for more public notification of proposed hearings. I will demand that City Council meetings start promptly. Input from community planning and business groups should be encouraged and respected. More live radio coverage of City Council hearings is needed. When citizens come to speak or show support or opposition at a hearing, continuances should be avoided.

LOU RIDGEWAY
Businessman

1. The supply of housing is critically short in San Diego—for example the scarcity has driven the price of the average house in San Diego to over $100,000—which requires that a person earn $2500 per month to qualify for a home loan. The average young family is precluded from home ownership—a sad commentary, indeed, for Americans.

To correct this, I intend to use all my business and educational background. It boils down to facilitating the permit processing procedure and cutting the delay caused by bureaucracy. I will forward my position on this with all my vigor and persuasion to get other councilmen to join me in this effort when I'm elected. My Master's degree will help me make improvements in city government.

2. Citizens had easier access to Councilmen and the Council before the establishment of the committee system. Now in order to address the Council you must write the Rules Committee—with full text of your remarks. Sometimes you never get a reply to your request. **People must be able to see their Councilmen.**

HAROLD W. CHEVRIE
Probation Officer

1. The housing shortage which is affecting our community can only be met with a workable efficient plan. There are successful housing progrmas in operation throughout the nation. Several of these plans, with modification, would be acceptable in San Diego. All the plans require tremendous amounts of federal money, which is the way it should be. The San Diego taxpayer should not pay a penny toward low cost housing.

Developers must include low-cost housing in the plans. The City will have to develop a policy, fair to all, that will give the developers an opportunity to pursue their goals and at the same time include housing to fit all incomes.

2. We should encourage the existing self serving community groups to expand their thinking to include the multiple problems of city government. Their representative would then attend all council meetings, thereby, providing the council with an up-to-date report of the feelings of the citizens on current issues. The individual citizen, working through his neighborhood group, would have more impact on council decisions because his suggestion or complaint would be investigated and evaluated at the local level before being presented to the City Council. These arrangements would also provide City Council members easy access to their constituents.

BILL CLEATOR
Small Business Owner

1. Inflation has unfortunately put most housing out of the reach of young people and the elderly. The demand for condo-conversions, for instance, is a result of the skyrocketing cost of housing; for many of us the only way they can provide a hedge against inflation.

Clearly, an economic diversity is desirable, but just as clearly, federally created inflation is making the task more difficult. It falls to the city government then, to provide "affordable" housing for certain kinds of economically distressed-citizens, the elderly being the most needy. For the rest of our people, the free market place is the answer. Rent control and moratoriums, and no-growth policies exacerbate the problems — apartment house construction is at a halt due to the threat of rent controls; condo-conversions are a reaction to rent controls, and home construction is depressed. As a City Councilman I will work for a balance between homes and the environment, and for a diversity of housing units within the general growth management plan.

2. It is my feeling that the average citizen has an extraordinary ability to be involved in the Council decision making process. Nothing provides more than an open mind and an open door. I pledge both to the people.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
235-8683
235-8684

RUDY P. MURILLO
Businessman

1. The City has to act — and act innovatively — to get its housing priorities back in order.

With downtown restoration we can provide incentives for people to live in attractive units such as the proposed Marina project. Downtown will eventually have its own constituency and will be an enjoyable place to visit and to shop for residents and tourists alike.

At the same time, the Council must live up to a commitment to use Federal money, already set aside for San Diego, to create low and moderate income housing within the means of wage earners. Here too, the emphasis should be on urban areas where services are already available and where we won't be contributing to suburban sprawl.

And the City can afford to consider long term leases on some of its land. This would enable young people to build up equity, saving towards a down payment on their own homes. It would also guarantee seniors that they could not be displaced from their homes during their lifetimes.

2. The Council's Committee System has gone far towards improving direct communication between constituents and Council members. It also encourages Councilpersons to take a special interest in a particular area of City government, such as police and fire protection, transportation, planning or housing.

Like any farsighted system, however, the committee process can now be improved and streamlined. For instance, we can make do with fewer panels, and letting experts from the City Manager's staff act as committee consultants could save more than $100,000 in staff salaries yearly.

LEE ELSTON
Real Estate Salesperson

1. I feel that present policy makes it comparatively easy for the large developer to build whole subdivisions of single family residences, but very difficult for the small builder to even locate properly zoned land on which to put apartments.

I would favor changing zoning and parking requirements for inner city land that is close to public transportation, thereby facilitating building of low-cost and moderate priced apartments. With more housing available, the natural law of supply and demand and competition for occupants should keep rents from escalating.

2. The agenda of City Council meetings should be published and broadcast at least one week in advance of meeting.

Signed, **written** arguments pro and con should be submitted, duplicated and given to Council members three days in advance of meeting.

Oral arguments on day of meeting should be for no more than three minutes each — total not to exceed 30 minutes.

I feel the above proposals would facilitate meetings, with Council members already cognizant of arguments and by limiting oral argument no one person could monopolilze proceedings.

JOYCE BEERS
S.D. Transit Board Vice President

1. Economically balanced communities will strengthen our city. They must be developed in cooperation with industry and community planning groups. The existing balanced community policy emphasises newly developing areas and some redevelopment projects. As your Council Member I will work to expand this policy to include all areas and for a strong Council commitment to implement it by:

- Constructing low income housing on City owned land;
- Leasing publicly owned land to private and non-profit organizations for low income rentals;
- Using all state and federal funds available for housing assistance programs;
- Using municipal revenue bonds to help finance affordable housing;
- Regulating conversion of apartments to condominiums;
- Encouraging developers through density bonuses to include lower priced units in new developments;
- Streamlining the permit process.

2. Council procedures must be reorganized to save citizen time and money and make the governmental process more understandable. As your Council Member I will advocate:

- Reforming the Council Committee system to make the governmental process more time efficient while retaining a forum for citizen-Council communication;
- Consolidation of staff support to Council Committees which will save money;
- Posting and encouraging adherance to time limit rules by the Council and public;
- Clarifying the Docket setting process;
- Realistic Docket setting so items will be heard the day scheduled;
- Giving the public adequate notice of Docket items by limiting the use of Supplemental Dockets;
- Investigating the relocation of Council Chambers to improve public access and safety.

BOB LINDFELT
Businessman

1. The existing policy to achieve economic diversity of housing, as declared in the Council Policy number 600-19 of 12/26/72, has very honorable intentions. To justify comment on the policy would take at least several thousand words.

The government's involvement to **push** these goals into reality is having an awful effect at the expense of the taxpayer, and more important, taking the basic rights of private ownership of land away from Americans.

Past news articles have been headlined: "Federal Bill Perils State Low-Income Housing Program", "Mayor Charges State Meddling In City Housing", and "Home Building Down Sharply Here".

My basic thought is: With the Federal, State, County and City governments having their own programs and policies, it is no wonder we have wasted tax money and have confusion. Let San Diego control its own destiny by developing its own housing programs in light of the above policy.

2. Here are just a few ideas to provide for better citizen involvement in the Council decision making process.

a. Instead of being nominated within the district and elected city wide, we should keep the elections within their districts. This will ensure the Council members are in tune with the Constituents.

b. Publish in monthly bulletin form, information on **upcoming** matters for citizens to respond to before a decision is made. Put them in convenient public places.

c. Have special response forms available for citizens to contact Council members. It should include a format for easy communications such as "To"; "From"; "Subject of Concern"; "Recommendation"; etc.

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1. *"The City Council makes decisions daily that affect housing in San Diego. What are your views regarding the existing policy to achieve economic diversity of housing? How would you further your position?*

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DISTRICT 2 (Con't.)

MAVIS MacFARLANE
Businesswoman

1. In the area of housing the City Council must be prepared to:
- Recognize our growth limitations, and
- Concentrate on providing adequate housing within those growth limitations.
  —All San Diego residents desperately need more reasonable priced housing.
  —Accommodating these needs must be the first obligation.
  —Providing housing for future residents is the next consideration.
- Modest Housing needs:
  —Four-plexes, multiple dwellings
  —Lease options
  —Owning home, leasing land
  —Prefab housing
  —Streamlining permit process
  —Housing subsidy programs

2. Some changes I would recommend in Council procedures right off would be:

a. Designate one specific place in the newspaper, e.g. under the present City Council Scoreboard, listing upcoming public hearings. This will eliminate the inconvenience to the public having to read the entire newspaper to find dates and times.

b. I plan to set up an advisory council made up of a cross section of citizens from district two to ensure direct input.

FRAN CONDON
Attorney

1. The City of San Diego has no comprehensive approach to achieving economic diversity in housing. As a member of the City Council, I will work to establish a policy which can be adopted city wide and which will encourage the development of diversity in housing. For example, the City now owns land throughout San Diego which is not being used. This property could be released in order to economically provide low income housing. Moreover, I would strive to have the Planning Department provide more "Planning" Rather than merely being an "Approval" Department.

2. The citizens who attent City Council meetings are often dismayed to find the agenda item they wish to address will not be heard. Having taken time off from work and incurred expenses to attend a meeting only to find the agenda item will not be heard as scheduled discourages citizen participation.

As a member of the City Council, I will work to see that we adhere to the "time certain" as scheduled and that citizens do not have to sit hour after hour, waiting to be heard.

I will also set up a system whereby the citizens in District Two can contact me easily. I will listen to their views and provide the means to make their needs known to me.

DISTRICT 4

ROLAND "ESQUIRE" HOLMES
Program Coordinator United Way, CETA

1. The Council has been foot dragging in dealing with this problem. The City has land that could be used for low and moderate income housing. I would work to this end. This would ease the burden on our Senior citizens as well as young single parents. I think the City should be more active in this area.

2. Since many problems concern the working class of 8 to 5, I could endorse evening Council meetings. Such meeting would not have to be downtown. Since each Council person represents a district, each should go into their respective district for formal meetings. This may mean increasing the staff, but even that only means a few more jobs. I don't think the people would object to an increase of spending for this type of service.

NORMA FREEMAN
Community Clinic Administrator, R.N.

1. The economic diversity of housing still leaves the poor poor! The new homes being built are priced so high that the working poor, single parents, senior citizens, and young couples are not able to afford them. The mobile home parks are few and expensive. Affordable apartments are being turned into highly priced condominiums. I would encourage more mobile homes, and construction of affordable apartments and condos.

2. I would push for financial reimbursement to the average working citizen so that he can participate on issues that might be of concern to him.

LEON WILLIAMS
Councilman

1. While the City Council several years ago adopted a balanced community concept, economic diversity in housing is not occuring. By its own admission the housing industry is not able to provide affordable housing for low and moderate income people.

Most knowledgeable people have come to the conclusion that greater government participation has become necessary. Through the use of city-owned land, factory-built housing, as well as other assistance programs, the city would begin to meet the needs of seniors and others on fixed low incomes.

2. I proposed and the Council approved a policy that would set certain time frames for items that come before the Council. If the Council would follow its own policy, citizens who take the time to concern themselves with government would not be left waiting for hours and often have their items continued for days or weeks to address a particular issue. I also proposed without the support of the Council as a whole, that some sessions of the Council be moved to various communities and actually solicit citizen involvement. My district office has operated a citizen participation program which has included for the last four years budget briefings, and regularly scheduled "block meetings" or coffees that serve as town meetings. Individual members of the Council have an obligation to be responsive to their own communities and encourage confidence and participation in government.

DISTRICT 6

STEVE WITTMAN
Attorney

1. In the last 12 months not one new apartment unit was built here. Why? Affordable rental housing construction is stifled by the twin threats of rent control and condominium conversion moratoriums.

Both builders and tenants need reassurances. Let's adopt a condominium tenant policy with features like: relocation assistance, earlier noticing, and long term tenancy for seniors.

The sale or lease of City-owned land is creeping along too slowly. Make it top priority and reserved for affordable housing wherever possible. Standardize and accelerate the RFP process. Encourage less costly innovative housing where appropriate for City land. Last, use solar water/space heating to cut monthly energy costs for seniors and low-income tenants living there.

Consolidate costly appeal and permit processes. Make more reviews final at the Planning Commission. On obviously controversial developments, take them directly to the Council.

Explore the use of mortgage revenue bonds. Use them **only** where they will not interfere with conventional financing. Do not undermine the savings and loan institutions in the process.

2. Local government receives more direct citizen input than the State or Federal levels. Yet few citizens commented on the FY80 budget. And this, despite overwhelming public sentiment to cut government costs.

I suggest the following improvements:

a. MORE EVENING MEETINGS encouraging working people to attend;

b. CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES. Watchdogging departmental operations will give valuable legislative input.

c. DAILY MEETING BROADCASTING. A government access channel or frequency should be funded for broadcasting City meetings daily.

d. MEDIA AGENDA PREVIEW to alert the public on upcoming decisions.

ART LETTER
Urban Planner

1. Our population is growing faster than the construction rate of new housing. The average price of a home in San Diego is $97,000. Affordable rental housing is becoming increasingly difficult to find. Most renters now spend more than 25 percent of their monthly income for housing. Rental vacancy rate for mobile home parks are at zero and vacancy rates for apartments are near zero. The current City Council housing priorities are for high income projects such as North City West where 14,000 units are planned with none costing less than $150,000. I would propose a 14-point plan to increase the supply of low affordable housing by leasing city owned land for construction of 10,000 units. I would support zoning and building modifications to allow more use of mobile homes and modular housing. I would expand the city's HUD rehabilitation program in a manner that will not foster rent increases and displacement of the low income tenant.

2. Government will have to rely on members of the community more as government money is not available to provide for all services. I would support an expansion of citizen involvement in the government process.

All proposals coming from staff would be required to have a citizen's comment section. I would establish a community advisory council made up of citizens in my district to increase access to their councilman. I would make citizen appointments to boards and commissions within my district and establish a citizen's budget advisory committee to assist with budget review hearings.

MARY CHRISTIAN-HEISING
Businesswoman, Political Activist

1. The existing Council policy for achieving economic diversity of housing, if such a policy exists, has produced inadequate results. Substantial segregation by economical class exists throughout the city. I believe we should encourage a mix of economic levels in each area. There are two major methods of achieving this goal:

a. Maintain existing lower cost housing by opposing zoning changes that would reduce inexpensive housing and by down zoning to limit construction of new high cost apartments/condominiums on land presently occupied by relatively inexpensive homes and apartments.

b. Aggressively pursue federal funds for construction of low cost housing in areas of generally more expensive dwellings.

In addition, I support maintaining the De Anza Trailer Park as is, since it provides low cost housing in District 6.

2. Citizen involvement in the Council decision making process can only be increased by somehow increasing citizen interest in local government. I have attempted to foster this interest by involvement in many public service organizations such as the Pacific Beach Town Council, League of Women Voters, S.D. Housing Advisory and Appeals Board, PTA, S.D. Canyon Preservation Association, etc. As a councilwoman, I would continue these efforts by frequent appearances at meetings of interested citizen groups. Further, I would establish a citizen's advisory committee to solicit input from citizens interested in serving on such a committee and would maintain an open door policy for all citizen input. This type of action is much more effective than any possible changes in Council procedures.

MEL GORHAM
Businessman

1. Planned growth that effectively uses our existing land to optimum benefit for our citizens to provide new homes and planned residential communities for all economic levels of our community is needed. North City West is an example of this type of planning and I concur with the decision to develop North City West whole heartedly.

2. Eliminate the committee system. It seems absurd to me to have public council meetings and invite the public to participate on issues of concern to them when weeks or months before a decision has "tentatively" been arrived at.

ROBERT (BOB) J. MILLER
Public Accountant

1. The housing shortage in San Diego has reached a crisis stage. The present ostrich-like policy of the City Council can only worsen the situation. The City Council must at once take the lead in initiating an all-out commitment from government on down, through the private sector, to produce adequate, affordable housing for the citizens of San Diego. The solution will not be easy, but it is not an impossibility provided we have the desire and total commitment.

I would take my position to the people plus attempting to influence my colleagues on the Council that what is good for the entire city of San Diego would be beneficial to all its various segments.

2. First of all, the Council must be made to realize that in a free society, the citizens reserve the right to set policy. The Council has the function to merely carry out the policies by legislation. More attention must be paid to various community and town councils, community planning groups and the other civic organizations.

I believe that a City Council member's first allegiance and concerns must be directed toward the district the member represents. After all, that is the reason the City has been divided into eight districts. Less reliance on appointed boards, commissions and committees and a closer look at the reports received from the hiring of outside consultants would be advantageous.

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DISTRICT 6 (Con't.)

DANIEL DRAMER
Criminal Justice Professor, Attorney

1. **a.** It obviously isn't working.

b. Require all income phases of a project to proceed together; increase land zoned for mobile park construction.

2. Abolish committee system; publish "critical issue" docket information to written and electronic press BEFORE hearings; change policy to prevent a citizen from serving on more than one appointed committee at any time; solicit communication to Council from citizens and organizations; require the Clerk to distribute all reports and back-up information to people known to have an interest in an issue, which will make it mandatory for docket information from manager and departments to be ready one week before hearing date; treat every citizen appearing before council with respect and courtesy.

MIKE GOTCH
Administrator, Urban Planner

Seven years ago the City Council adopted Policy 600-19, the Balanced Community Policy, to foster the goals of the city's General Plan Housing Element and its own policy of non-discrimination. That policy, if implemented, could achieve economic diversity in each city neighborhood. On the Council, I would press for an aggressive housing program to assure that San Diego has housing of all types for all needs.

Every possible effort whould be expended including ordinances, the use of available subsidies, the cooperation of the private sector, and the use of city-owned land-both to bring down the cost of constructing housing for the needy and to provide sites scattered throughout the city. Moderate-income renters, especially the elderly, should be protected from exorbitant rent increases and conversion of their apartments to condominiums.

Present Council procedures include an expensive and time-consuming committee system. Estimates show that elimination of the Council committee system would save San Diego taxpayers one million dollars per year. Elimination would also ensure more opportunity for the public to participate in the decisions of government by having direct access to the full Council.

In addition, the City Council should give greater consideration to the input of community planning groups, town councils, neighborhood merchants and other interested in promoting citizen involvement.

LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP —INFORMATION—

Membership in the League of Women Voters if open to anyone 18 years of age or older. Dues for the San Diego LWV are currently $25.75 which includes membership in the National and State League.

Instead of having large meetings of all members, the unit system was established to facilitate and encourage the exchange of ideas and opinions on program issues through small neighborhood-based discussion groups. Today the League is expanding that purpose to include a wide range of activities.

One of the most important programs is Voters Service, which seeks to register voters and then present factual, non-partisan, objective information pro and con on ballot issues so the voter will be well informed.

At present there are thirteen units in the San Diego League: Mission Hills, Downtown, College Area Evening, East San Diego, Point Loma Day, Point Loma Evening, North Shores, University City, La Jolla Evening, La Jolla Day, Scripps Ranch, Tierrasanta, and Rancho Bernardo. A membership drive is scheduled for the Mira Mesa area this Fall.

Another service the League offers a Speakers Bureau, whose members research the ballot propositions and are well informed on issues the League has studied, such as housing, women's interests, and educational problems in San Diego.

League also has observers who monitor City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Education, and other meetings to gain first hand information on their operation and decisions.

The topic of the September unit meetings will be a discussion of the pros and cons of Propositions A, B, C and D on the City's September 18 ballot. Visitors are welcome at these meetings. Call the League office at 235-VOTE for the date and address of the meeting closest to you.

Know the budget process

An important congressional function you will want to understand and comment upon is the new (since 1974) budget process, which reasserts an active congressional role in formulating the national budget. This means that citizens also now have a greater opportunity to contribute to discussions of our national spending priorities.

Both houses of Congress have established budget committees to consider various budget alternatives and suggest a comprehensive budget package. By April 15, they must report to the House and Senate the first concurrent resolution establishing government totals for spending, new budget authority, revenues, the deficit and the level of the public debt for the upcoming fiscal year. A strategic time to contact your senators and representative, then, is before the 15th of April. May 15th is another important date, as this is when the budget committees review various pieces of authorization legislation. A second concurrent resolution establishes spending ceilings and a revenue floor, and must be adopted by September 15th.

The League of Women Voters Education Fund publication *Congress and the Budget: From Chaos to Control* (#368, 40¢), provides a succinct explanation of the new budget process. It is available from LWVUS, 1730 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

DISTRICT 8

RUTH J. SCHNEIDER
Community Worker

1. I believe that the City Council should adopt an ordinance, rather than a policy, in order to enforce balanced community housing throughout San Diego since an ordinance is enforceable whereas a policy is not. I would work to have an ordinance passed.

2. The voters reaffirmed their demand that San Diego continue the managerial-type government in a recent ballot. However, over the past eight years said type of government has been eroded by the elected officials through the use of the Committee System. The Committee System is not working in San Diego as a viable substitute or preparatory method for City Council decision-making due to the low priority the functioning of the committees themselves is given. This is evidenced by the gross practice of low attendance at committee meetings by committee members and the continuing failure to give adequate notice and information to the public due to lack of published agendas in sufficient time prior to the meeting of the committees.

The above failures of communication with the public along with the practice of publishing a Supplemental Agenda to the City Council meetings containing far too many items and made availble at too insufficient an amount of time to give proper notice to the public are among examples of what I believe is a basic problem of government in this City; lack of communication.

Methods of improving communication with the public may be implemented through correction of the above said inadequacies, through use of more evening Council meetings, and by appointment to commissions and advisory boards of persons from all areas of the City rather than from a limited few communities. The above changes would be a big step toward putting the citizen back into the San Diego City decision-making process.

JOE DIAZ
Businessman, Publisher

1. Affordable housing is the city's most pressing need. Most homes and apartments are simply too expensive for most San Diegans.

The city's failure to address this need with an active, coherent policy has forced people to take up the slack themselves. Formation of the San Diego Housing Coalition which I helped found along with Susan Davis, a former League of Women Voters president, is an example of such citizen action. So is the current rent control initiative, which I support.

Though such citizen participation is, indeed, essential to achieve greater economic diversity in San Diego's housing market, by itself it is not enough. Nor should it have to be. City government should provide the leadership and could do so in several ways. Specifically, the City should:

a. Enact a moratorium on the conversion of apartments to condominiums.

b. Streamline the building permit approval process.

c. Make greater use of available state and federal housing monies.

d. Allow consumer demand, rather than arbitrary and ineffective and inflationary government restrictions, to determine the number of building permits approved annually.

e. Utilize the redevelopment process and below-market sale of city owned land to stimulate production of low, moderate, and middle income housing, especially for senior citizens.

2. The key to more effective citizen participation is greater understanding of an ease of access to the decision-making process. Accordingly, City Council meetings should be held in various neighborhoods throughout the city, not just downtown. Also, as an individual councilperson, I would walk precincts regularly, even after the election . . conduct district-wide polls on crucial issues facing the Council. . . hold monthly town hall meetings . . . and . . . conduct semiannual legislative workshops.

WARREN A. NIELSEN
Property Manager-Builder

1. Housing shortages in San Diego, because of the growing population, can only be relieved by builders being given more incentive to build what the community wants. The City Council by downzoning whole neighborhoods has artifically raised the price of land and made it more difficult to build.

Rent control or condominium moratoriums will not build more housing — it will stifle and stop housing construction—thereby cause blackmarkets and under the table payments. San Diego will suffer by having fewer houses and apartments available.

2. The Council calendar for upcoming items should be published in the newspaper sufficiently ahead of time so the citizens can be alerted — not just told of what happened after the fact. The City Clerk should publish a summary each month of what actions were taken by the Council and how each Council member voted. A summary of next month's Council calendar should also be published so the citizens can know what is coming up.

Recent City Council actions regarding the new Naval Hospital revealed a City Council more concerned with giving Balboa Park land away than protecting it, as the City Charter requires. Mayor Wilson and certain City Council members are in favor of violating the City Charter requirement for 2/3 voter approval. They think a simple majority only is necessary. That is malfeasance in office.

I want a new Naval Hospital to be built, but not in Balboa Park; better on Helix Heights on city owned land two miles north of the 32nd Street Naval Station.

LUCY KILLEA
Appointed Councilwoman

1. As a member of the Planning Comission and now on the City Council, I have encouraged and supported well designed and suitable housing development on both public and private lands. I am continuing to seek every opportunity to achieve wider availability of housing opportunity through all income levels by making city-owned land available with commitments to moderate and lower income families.

I support the inclusion of moderate and low income property in the Marina Redevelopment Area which is within my district.

I support the current Planning Department effort to create for earliest City Council consideration a revised housing element of our City General Plan. It is my desire that this housing element present a program to ensure suitable housing for moderate, and where possible, low income families.

I encourage the city to take every opportunity to secure federal assistance for low and moderate income families through Section 8 and other HUD programs.

I feel that the broader housing opportunities in the new General Plan will create a more competitive building industry, which in turn will help housing within closer reach of our new and younger families.

2. Our task is to integrate a citizenship participation structure to ensure a continuing flow of citizen opinion, advice and counsel as part of a flow into the decision making process.

I propose that this be accomplished by constant attention to, and review of Council policy and other rules by which this citizenship participation is achieved. I encourage greater participation in this process by all of our citizens.

Board of Education Candidates

Voters will be electing Board of Education members for the San Diego Unified School District from Districts A, D and E. The board member from each district will serve a 4 year term and will be compensated $75 per meeting.

Board of Education candidates were asked:

"What current educational issues most affect the quality of education in San Diego? What would you do to resolve them?"

DISTRICT A

PHILIP HART
Business Manager

The quality of education in San Diego is being affected by many issues, including the cost of education, promotion and graduation standards, discipline problems, and integration.

Since the greatest expenditure is for teacher salaries, there is a strong and understandable limitation to seeking major reductions in the budget. I will question and closely scrutinize all proposed expenditures and then monitor and evaluate the results of each activity.

I believe we must strengthen the standards for promotion and graduation, and then monitor each student's progress frequently to ensure that goals are being met.

The discipline problem has been increasing and it is unacceptable. Detailed expected standards of behavior must be established and understood by all concerned, along with the consequences for violation thereof.

School integration is an extremely complex issue. The continuation of the current voluntary integration program is the best course of action at this time.

JOHN WITT
Engineer/College Instructor
School Board Member

As president and as a member of the Board of Education, I have actively helped achieve improvement on the issues that most affect quality education. These improved issues include:

1. CTBS Test Scores Improved
2. Discipline Standards Tightened
3. Class Size Reduced
4. "Voluntary" Integration Continued
5. Basic Skills Exam Instituted

For too long schools have been asked to bear an increasing responsibility for society's problems and this dilutes the schools primary goal.

This year, discipline standards have been tightened and notices sent to the home outlining the responsibilities and the level of Board of Education support for students, parents, teachers, administrators, and community.

Continuing a "voluntary" integration program has made San Diego the only large urban district in the United States retaining the neighborhood school concept.

Reelection to the Board of Education will allow me to build upon these successes by visiting schools, talking with parents, reviewing instructional materials and analyzing test scores.

ROBERT C. BACON
College Instructor

If you are completely satisfied with our public schools then vote for another candidate. However, IF you agree our schools MUST:

1. Be Free of Violence and Drugs
2. Avoid Bussing, and
3. Return to Basic Education,

then I ask your consideration.

I would implement a specific plan to end violence and drug abuse on our campuses via establishing a firm set of standards and then using continuation schools to isolate and help offenders. OUR PRESENT BOARD IS VERY TARDY IN THIS AREA.

I regard BUSSING as a waste of the lives of the children being bussed, a waste of money and energy and I favor the Robbins Anti-Bussing measure, Proposition 1 on your November 6 ballot, as a first step in correction this 'sugar coated bussing' we now have.

I would place the development of the NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL as my first step in returning education to the parents.

Please consider my background in local education. Thank you.

DISTRICT D

DOROTHEA EDMISTON
School Board Member

Two issues that deeply affect the quality of education in San Diego are integration and finance.

In San Diego's VOLUNTARY integration program, which I support and helped plan, improved quality is used as the incentive to participate. No child is bused unless the parents choose, parents are given several choices, and education for all is enriched. Forced busing leads to catastrophe for the schools and destruction of the city's economic base. We must avoid it.

School finance has a direct effect on quality of programs. Revenue limits, court decisions, federal and state orders and inflation all contribute to drive costs above taxpayer limits. More solutions must be found that will reduce cost in order to guard both the taxpayer's dollars and the quality of education our children receive.

My six years on the Board, my business experience and my proven commitment qualify me to develop the best solutions for the taxpayers and the children.

BOB FILNER
Parent, University Professor

In the wake of Proposition 13, the $300 million school budget must be more carefully managed so that precious resources can be devoted to where they are needed most — the classroom.

Let us insure that our students graduate with the basic skills necessary to function in our complex society—rather than wasting money on unnecessary new school construction.

Let us address the problems of discipline and violence by expanding preventive counseling programs and independent learning centers — rather than leaving millions of dollars lying in surplus accounts.

Let us make more creative use of underutilized schools for the entire community — rather than threaten neighborhood vitality and falsely economizing by closing schools.

Let us strengthen our voluntary integration program through real leadership, honest evaluation, and open debate—rather than costly public relations campaigns.

In short, the basic issue is directing tax dollars to programs that truly promote quality education for our children.

Candidate Jimmie K. Sue did not respond to questionnaire

ELECTION CALENDAR 1979

San Diego City General Election
Uniform District Elections
School Governing Board Elections—
November 6, 1979
Last day to Register — October 8, 1979
Last day to apply for an Absent Voter Ballot
October 30, 1979

OFFICIALS TO BE ELECTED IN 1980

President and Vice President
United States Senator
Representatives to Congress
State Senators
Members of the Assembly
County Board of Supervisors
Districts 1, 2, and 3
Superior, Municipal and Justice Court
Judges
Members, County Board of Education
Districts 1 and 4
Mayor and Council Members
General Law Cities
City Clerk(s)

DISTRICT E

MARIO C. PALOMINO
Businessman

Promotion of functional illiterates and those without marketable skills can be alleviated by emphasizing basic education and vocational training.

Lack of discipline and the resultant violence must be stopped. Strict enforcement of discipline, beginning in the youngest grades, will help make our schools safe for students, teachers and others. Most important, teachers must have administrative support in this effort.

Judge Welsh gave the Board another year to prove the voluntary integration program can work. We must promote participation in the magnet schools by insuring that all students and parents are aware of programs, locations and availability, thereby alleviating the need for involuntary integration. This allows use of educational dollars in the classroom, not on forced busing.

We MUST unite the school, parent, business and industrial communities for a successful integration program.

We should remember in all our efforts. school is for the student, not the student for the school.

TOM JOHNSON
Administrative Supervisor

Test results indicate whole schools are failing in SDUSD. Thirty schools are in the bottom 25% statewide, scholastically. Yet recently, the Board raised the Superintendent's salary plus extended his contract four years. News stories reporting this action carried no evidence of Board concern for school-wide failures; no evidence of required correction or improvement; no evidence that these problems were discussed as salary or performance considerations. This implied Board acceptance of some school-wide failure as normal; and that they're not to be considered part of the Superintendent's accountability. This sets a damaging educational tone district-wide.

I reject the notion that school-wide failure cannot be reversed in San Diego — or that the Board should continue to find it acceptable. When on Board I will work responsibly to persuade other Board members to this point of view; and seek to make systemwide quality paramount with school, parents and community.

Candidate Theo Logan did not respond to questionnaire.

ROY L. LANDERS
Attorney, Minister

The current educational issues most affecting the quality of education in San Diego are:

1. Proposition 13 mandated curtailment of school financing.
2. Student violence and lack of discipline and
3. Lack of concentration on teaching the basic fundamentals of reading, writing and arithmetic.

To eliminate the funding crisis, school programs will have to be grouped and ranked in priority for funding purposes. Those of low priority, such as driver education, should be discontinued from direct funding.

Student violence will be solved only with total involvement of parents, teachers, administration and a community that demands responsibility for one's acts. Students must be told what is expected of them and held to that standard.

Each child should be required to have minimum competencies in reading, writing and calculative skills before going to higher levels of learning.

If elected, I would devise systems to implement the above with no additional staff or expense.

JOE LITTLEJOHN
Deputy City Attorney, Educator

I am interested in three areas of concern to our community pertaining to the quality of education. I have stated that I will not tolerate any form of violence in our schools; teachers, students and parents should be safe within our school grounds and I plan to make this a mandate of the new Board. Violence can only be handled by directly dealing with the cause and controlling the symptoms until causes can be assessed and solutions developed.

I am also concerned with the rights of parents to protect the rights of their children. As an attorney I have studied these and plan to enforce them, especially those concerning the right to privacy of children's records, career counseling, and non-discrimination on basis of sex, race, or handicap.

I plan to use Prop. 13 to cut the fat from education and provide quality education for fewer dollars.

Candidate Robert C. Ard did not respond to questionnaire.

Effective Communication

KNOW THE ISSUES

You will already know something about a particular issue when you decide to contact your representative or senators, but you may wish to line up more facts to back up your point of view. Whether you are supporting or opposing a piece of legislation, clear, reasonable expressions of your opinion will get priority treatment on the Hill. Avoid excessive documentation. It won't be read. Try to make your point in one to two pages.

THE TELEPHONE CALL

When you are experimenting with different ways of communicating with members of Congress, don't overlook the telephone call. Used correctly, it can be a very effective action tool. Be sure to be well prepared and well informed, and place your call at a strategic time; just before a vote, for instance. If you have written or visited with the representative, remind him or her of that previous contact. If the member is not available, speak with the legislative assistant — you'll still be getting your message across.