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NEWSLETTER 25

April, 1976

THE CITY OF
SAN DIEGO

L. R. "LEE" HUBBARD, Jr.
COUNCILMAN

.....San Diego may be a "no growth" city in most respects, but there are a few exceptions.....For example, crime continues to boom with the FBI reporting a 13.6 per cent increase here last year!!!..... This compares with the national average of 9 percent and an increase of only 3.65 per cent for Los Angeles.....When I ran for the Council in 1973, I found that better police protection was the primary concern of our citizens.....The Community Relations Board now has issued findings that the people of San Diego need and want more officers in the field.....We currently have the lowest manning level of police officers among the top 25 cities in the United States.....Los Angeles has double the number of officers per thousand people than we have.....The message seems lost on our City leadership, though, which now suggest that citizens hire private security forces if they want more protection in their neighborhoods!!!!!.....This elitist attitude is reminiscent of Marie Antoinette's response to her peasants' lack of bread....."Let them eat cake," she said.....Concerned San Diegans simply must demand that their elected officials now face up to their obligation and hire more officers.....

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.....Meanwhile, a lot of people with low incomes-----particularly minorities and senior citizens, are finding that San Diego is becoming a tough place to live in under a so-called "controlled growth" administration.....Virtually no supply of housing, and plenty of demand, is driving up assessed valuations for available housing astronomically.....And as goes assessed valuation, so go property taxes, purchase prices and rents——UP.....When this policy's chickens come home to roost, many San Diegans may well be living in converted coops.....

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.....Unemployment in San Diego is at 11.3%.....Other major cities in California are more fortunate, but then City Hall's response to the problem here is to attempt to reduce capability of the Economic Development Corporation to bring in new industry.....Well, as the CPO Growth Study observes, "If the region is seriously committed to controlling growth, then it must investigate means by which it can influence the number of new employment opportunites".....

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.....The City is moving again with plans for legislation regulating massage parlors..... Meanwhile, the "outcall massage business seems to be growing rapidly, causing tremendous difficulties for hotels and motels.....We are proposing an ordinance to restrict massage activities to the address specifically listed on the business license for better monitoring by police.....Hopefully, until comprehensive legislation is enacted, we can at least slow down expansion of the problem.....

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.....Professor Robert Freilich's "Growth Management Study" continues to wend its way through the "Mystic Maze" of City Hall.....Common logic indicates that many problems will be involved in the recommendations.....A lengthy moratorium on any development in San Diego until the problems are "worked out".....

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.....Some of you have asked if the Peter Kaye who appears on television in President Ford's campaign entourage is the Peter Kaye who was the paid ($9,000.) director of Pete's 1971 campaign for Mayor, worked for Hugh Flournoy's campaign for Governor in 1974 and again for Pete last year.....The latter wasn't quite a "Re-Pete" for Peter as the second time around he ran the campaign as an unpaid "volunteer," while serving as director of corporate communications for Dick Silberman's Southern California First National Bank.....Small world, isn't it?.....Funny election laws, aren't they?.....

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.....In the meantime, we are still awaiting the District Attorney's report on alleged violations of the municipal campaign ordinance last year.....

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.....The City now is involved in full labor negotiations with its employees. We can say little in public during this process but can certainly express the hope that the Council will move toward enlightened rather than continued repressive relationships with its employees.....

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.....Look for sewer fees to go up.....Also recall Page 118 of CPO's study on population growth where they state that "Public service pricing policies are a way in which a city can directly influence its growth".....

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City Administration Building • Community Concourse • 202 C Street • San Diego, California 92101 • 236-6633

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.....Congratulations to "Dutch" Moddy of Kensington for his excellent suggestion that neighbors try to group their refuse cans at common property lines to save stops by our pickup crews.....The City has endorsed the concept, and the savings which can be achieved, with a card being mailed out with water bills to homeowners.....

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.....Taxes, Taxes, Taxes.....San Diego hopes to "hold the line" on our present tax rate of $1.72 per $100 of assessed valuation.....Los Angeles is considering raising its tax rate from $1.32 to its legal limit of $1.41.....My concern here is that our bureaucracy continues to grow.....While we are some distance away from our legal tax rate limit, we are now using more than 70 per cent of Federal revenue sharing funds to pay for city operations instead of capital projects and "one-shot" programs.....If this unsound financing collapses, look out!!!!.....

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.....Council is studying a new program developed by the City Manager for purchase of open space.....This would require a simple majority of voters to approve the bonds, and has considerable potential.....

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.....I plan to walk 20 miles May 8th as honorary chairman of the "Walk for Mankind" which benefits international health care activities for Project Concern.....Pledges of 10 cents or more per mile are welcome.....

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.....President Ford's election committee has asked that we list the following information (last month we listed Gov. Reagan's campaign HQ information) for their campaign's local office: 3605 Fifth Avenue., San Diego, 92103, Phone 297-6660

.....Despite "fossil fuel" conservation efforts, it is clear that the United States will need to utilize nuclear sources of energy.....Proposition 15 on the June ballot, the Nuclear Initiative, would stop efforts to make intelligent and effective use of our technological advances in this field in California.....Please look it over carefully and, I hope, vote NO.....

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.....Thanks for your cards and notes.....Let's keep in contact.....Your opinion is needed to help preserve the concept that local government should be low profile, providing only essential services and minimum controls.....Don't be fooled by political statements about how small San Diego's government is under this administration.....The City's regular work force of 6,300 is bolstered by 588 workers who receive Federally-funded pay checks which don't show up in the municipal budget or (certainly) the propaganda machine.....If we ever do get to be "like Los Angeles," look for it to happen in the size of the bureaucracy and the political arm of City Hall.....

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COUNCILMAN LEE HUBBARD
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SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU ON THESE AND ANY OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN TO YOU

League of California Cities

Conference Daily Release 4

California Cities Work Together

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1975

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General Assembly to Act on Resolutions

Following Neil Peirce's presentation "Cities--The Outside Looks In", the General Assembly will consider and act upon a wide variety of resolutions before the Conference. Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, Gilbert Smith, Council Member, Carson, will present each resolution to the assemblage, and following discussion of the issue the voting delegate will be asked to cast their vote on behalf of their respective city using the voting card provided. If your voting delegate has not picked up the city's voting card, they are available just outside the entrance to the Hilton Plaza. Also available are the resolutions to be acted upon. Once again Tom Jenkins, former Mayor of San Carlos has been appointed Parliamentarian and Ann Tanner, City Clerk in Palo Alto as chairman of the Credentials Committee.

Your Comments Sought

In order to develop an annual conference that is most helpful and informative to all city officials, the League Board of Directors and staff need your reactions to this year's conference as well as your suggestions for topics and speakers for next year.

While this year's program is still fresh in your mind, let the League office in Sacramento know what you thought of this year's program and how we might improve it to make next year's annual meeting in San Diego the best ever.

Cities' Fiscal Crisis Subject at Luncheon

The Closing General Luncheon of the 1975 Annual Conference will feature Dr. Donna Shalala, Director and Treasurer of the Municipal Assistance Corporation for New York City ("BICMAC"). Dr. Shalala is a Guggenheim Fellow, currently on leave from her position as Associate Professor of Politics at Columbia University. Among her special activities of interest is a study of the tax referenda in California including the Watson and Reagan amendments.

The fiscal crisis funding in New York City will have an affect on all cities. The observations and comments by Dr. Shalala will provide valuable insights and guidance to California city officials. As suggested by the addage "experience is the best teacher", Dr. Shalala's address will share with us the New York experience so that California might avoid a similar situation.

San Diego 1976 Site

San Diego will be the site of the 78th Annual Conference of the League of California Cities, October 17-20, 1976. Conference activities will center around the San Diego Community Concourse downtown with sleeping accomodations scattered throughout the downtown area, Mission Bay and Mission Valley.

Announcement of the 78th Annual Conference will be distributed to city officials in mid-June, 1976.

A Message from Your New President

In the coming year, I invite and would greatly appreciate your active support in the affairs of the League of California Cities.

The conflict between the rising expectations of our citizens and limited revenue sources poses our greatest challenge, and will largely influence our legislative priorities for the coming year.

We must be prepared to speak convincingly and with one voice for the reallocation of resources that will permit local governments to do a better job without having to raise property taxes that already are too high or to cut services.

And we must be convincing in our argument that the most basic needs of the people - short of those related to foreign policy - relate to what is performed at the local level.

The people live at the local level, and it is our challenge in the coming year to represent them to the best of our abilities in our efforts to maintain the local control that we cherish.

Pete Wilson

PETE WILSON