

Mayor Jane M. Tolmach

Outline for Presentation During
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING (C-3)

Sierra Linda School
June 6, 1973

I. Opening Remarks

- A. Thank you for inviting me to join with you here tonight.
- B. Members of the City Council are very enthused about the potential of Neighborhood Councils, and encouraged by the community's interest in this new citizen participation program.
- C. Happy that your neighborhood has become an officially recognized member of the organization.

II. Potential Benefits of Neighborhood Council Program

A. Responsibilities of City Council

As legislative body for Oxnard City Government, the City Council is responsible for identifying the municipal service needs of local residents, for developing responding programs and projects, and for setting priorities for the implementation of these programs and projects.

B. Fulfillment of these responsibilities requires that City Councilmen keep in close contact with local residents. Councilmen have maintained this contact in the past through personal contacts with many citizens, by receiving testimony from individuals and groups during public hearings, and by receiving advice from the City's 13 boards, committees and commissions. The new Neighborhood Council program will expand this citizen contact on an ongoing basis and, thereby, help the City Council meet its responsibilities.

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III. Limitations Upon City's Response to Local Needs

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*outlines need
County standards*

- A. We anticipate that the Neighborhood Councils will be identifying many problems and deficiencies within their respective areas. Many of these will probably be solved by direct action by various City departments without great expenditures. Other projects may require the major expenditure of funds and, therefore, involve the City Council.
- B. We should acknowledge the fact that Neighborhood Councils may experience some frustration in obtaining some of the facilities needed for their areas. City government does not have the financial resources to immediately respond to all local needs.
- C. The City utilizes a five year Capital Improvement Budget procedure to set priorities for future improvements (e.g. park, streets, traffic signals, drainage facilities). We hope to obtain the participation of Neighborhood Councils in developing future Capital Improvement Budgets so that the projects planned might best respond to neighborhood needs.

IV. Conclusion

The City Council is confident the Neighborhood Council Program will be successful in meeting its objectives. We will be looking forward to your assistance in helping it achieve this success and, thereby, in building an even better community.

V. Question and Answers

If any of you have any questions, I will be happy to try to respond to them . . .