

RESOLUTION NO. 6050

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXNARD URGING THE VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO REAFFIRM ITS PLEDGE TO CONSTRUCT A COLLEGE FACILITY IN OXNARD AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees for the Ventura County Community College District has long recognized the critical need for an Oxnard College which offers a full program of training and transfer education to residents of the largest urban area within Ventura County; and

WHEREAS, in order to develop a college facility which will meet this important need, the Ventura County Community College District acquired a 118 acre campus site in the southeastern sector of the City; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the acquisition of this site by the College District, planning decisions for the southeastern section of Oxnard have reflected the District's intention to move forward with the development of a college facility at an early date; and

WHEREAS, these planning decisions by the City of Oxnard have included the acquisition of a 50 acre parcel adjacent to the college site which is to be developed as a regional park facility integrated with the college grounds; and

WHEREAS, following the failure of a bond election in March, 1970, which would have provided funds for the immediate construction of the Oxnard College, the College District developed an alternative method of financing the facility through a phased development approach; and

WHEREAS, in light of the critical need for an Oxnard College and the Board of Trustees' longstanding plans to respond to this need,

members of the City Council were understandably surprised and dismayed by the action taken by the Board on June 19, 1973, which apparently postpones site development work for the Oxnard College for at least another year; and

WHEREAS, members of the City Council and many residents of the Oxnard community find it very difficult to understand the action by the Board of Trustees in approving a major building project at Ventura College while postponing initial work on the desperately needed Oxnard College; and

WHEREAS, the Board's assignment of a relatively low priority to the Oxnard College constitutes a grave disservice to the nearly 4,000 Oxnard area residents who now commute to the Ventura and Moorpark campuses, to taxpayers of the Oxnard community who now contribute approximately one-quarter of the College District's property tax revenue, and to the many county residents who are awaiting the development of the regional park in southeast Oxnard which will be made possible by the construction of an Oxnard College facility; and

WHEREAS, the postponement of the Oxnard College project is also a severe blow to the many economically disadvantaged youngsters and adults living in the Oxnard area who are presently denied the opportunity to attend a community college and acquire those needed skills which will enable them to enter the economic, political, and social mainstream of our society; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees' current plans to offer additional classes at a center in Oxnard through Ventura College must be viewed as an interim, stopgap method of responding to the community college needs of the Oxnard area; and

WHEREAS, while undertaking this interim response to local instructional service needs, the Board of Trustees should also take action to meet its longstanding commitment to the Oxnard community by appropriating funds for Oxnard College site development during FY 1973-74, by including plans for the early construction of the Oxnard College

in the Ten-Year Facilities Plan which is to be submitted to the state prior to December 1, 1973, and by reassessing other College District priorities so that funds can be made available for the Oxnard College.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Oxnard does hereby urge the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees to reaffirm its pledge to construct a college facility in Oxnard at the earliest possible date.

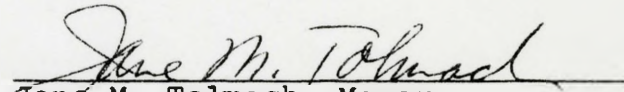
Passed and adopted this 10th day of July, 1973, by the following vote:

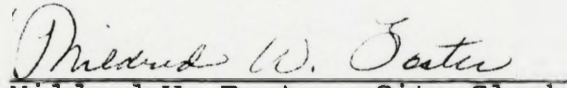
AYES: Councilmen Jewell, Kato, Miller, Sanchez, Tolmach.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ATTEST:


Jane M. Tolmach, Mayor


Mildred W. Foster, City Clerk