

Urban Renewal Need Doubted

Editor, Press-Herald,
The following is an exact copy of a motion made by Mr. Wm. Uerkwitz, the Chairman of the Citizens' Advisory Committee for Community Improvement, made at the committee's meeting of Sept. 1, 1966:

The City Administration has instigated the Urban Renewal Plan, the City Council also acts as the Redevelopment Agency. It is obvious to me that they are pre-determined concerning this Project. I feel that the responsibility for establishing Urban Renewal in the City of Torrance should be shared with the citizens of Torrance by giving them the opportunity of voting on the issue, for the following reasons:

1. The City Council and The Redevelopment Agency who will conduct the public hearings, as I have previously stated, have established pre-determined judgment. All that is required to put Urban Renewal in Torrance is a 4-3 vote. The decision for a responsibility as great as this with all its ramifications should be shared with the City Taxpayers.
2. Since Mr. Ferraro, The City Manager, has indicated that there are other areas that may require Urban Renewal Projects, it would seem pretty obvious this Meadow Park Project, is the opening of the door. Once the Project is established, it becomes easy to establish the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th project.

3. I have some concern whether the people of Torrance were aware and willing to spend six million dollars on this Project, when the same solution could be accomplished by limiting the short runway at the Torrance Airport to landing traffic. If take-off traffic at the Airport was confined to the long runway and the short runway used only for landing, then there would not be a requirement for Urban Renewal in the area. This would be a minimum in convenience for a few pilots and a major savings for the Taxpayers, considerable improvements were started prior to the Moratorium placed on Meadow Park. I am sure the land is valuable enough that it will improve itself and not require any kind of assistance other than private enterprise.

The minutes of the Citizens' Advisory Committee for that meeting read as follows:

"Mr. Uerkwitz said the idea of this committee was to represent the people of Torrance and a cross section of the City was selected for this particular Committee to express the sentiment of the people in the area they represent and to that responsibility, he made a lengthy motion; in substance, to place the Urban Renewal Project on the ballot, and he further explained that if the short runway of the airport were closed it might inconvenience a few pilots but no Urban Renewal Project would then be needed in the Meadowpark area. Mr. Lewison claimed it was not a proper motion without first going before a Subcommittee. Mr. Gregory seconded Mr. Uerkwitz' motion. The motion failed by the following roll call vote:
AYES: Gregory, Uerkwitz, NOES: Baciu, Berwanger, Cahill, Cunerty, Faren, Gray,

Jones, Lewison, Lowell, Mitendorf, Ordaz, Roleder, Shelbourn.

My questions are as follows:

1. Why wasn't this entire motion made part of the records of that meeting?
2. Since when is a motion not proper, without first going to a subcommittee?
3. Why was it that only two (2) members of this committee feel that the responsibility of establishing Urban Renewal in Torrance, should be shared with the taxpayers of the city?
4. Did the committee members that voted against this motion, make the assumption that the voters are not capable of voting on this issue... Or have they become indifferent to the sentiment of the people they are suppose to represent?
5. Where are the other areas in the city, that the city manager has indicated may require urban renewal? Is area A-12 next? Or is it the Downtown Business Section? What about the area near El Nido Park? Or perhaps the Pueblo Community? Are these the other areas?

These are just a few questions that have gone unanswered. The most important one to me is, "Why can't the issue of urban renewal be put on the ballot?"
Carmen T. Rivera

Editor, Press-Herald:
During the past two years the local chapter of the League of Women Voters of Inglewood-Hawthorne, Torrance, and the Palos Verdes Peninsula together with the other seventeen chapters in Los Angeles County have been doing a study of rapid transit. As a result of this study we have reached a consensus on the need for a complete rapid transit system.

To quote in part from the statement of Mrs. William Russell, president of the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County:
"Public transportation is a public service which we need for the economic, social, cultural, and physical well being of Los Angeles County..."

"Because public transportation is an essential public utility and public service, we feel that the use of public funds is justified. The League will support the use of public funds for the construction and development of a rapid transit system including coordinating rail lines, feeder buses, and local service."
"We also support public funds to provide an operating subsidy to supplement fare box revenues so as to assure adequate service and reasonable fares..."

As a result of this study and consensus, it is the determination of the three undersigned chapters to join with the other Leagues in the county in working for the development and operation of an adequate mass transit system in Los Angeles County.

Mrs. A. S. Nathanson, President, Inglewood Hawthorne.
Mrs. William Radcliffe, President, Torrance
Mrs. Allen J. Curtis, President, Palos Verdes Peninsula, League of Women Voters.

"The California Medical Association's announcement that it has asked its 23,000 member physicians to stop smoking and advise their patients to do the same is a big step towards cancer control," Mrs. Jack Ansley of Manhattan Beach, volunteer chairman of the American Cancer Society in the Centinela Valley, South Bay district, said this week.

"Most smokers will look for any reason to rationalize their smoking habits even though they know it's harmful to their health. If their own family doctor smokes, many people will say 'if he isn't worried about it, why should I?'" Mrs. Ansley said. "It isn't much easier for doctors to give up smoking than it is for the rest of us but the CMA's position should help."

THE CANCER Society estimates that there were about 50,000 deaths in the United States during 1966 from lung

cancer. During the same year there were also an estimated 55,000 new cases. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths among men, but is one of the types of cancer that is largely preventable.

"The best way to prevent it is simply to stop smoking," Mrs. Ansley said. "If more people knew about cancer, its symptoms and what to do about it, we'd be able to save half of those who develop the disease. One in six cancer patients dies needlessly because the disease is detected and treated too late."

tion of smoking and number of cigarettes smoked per day, and is diminished by discontinued smoking."

The American Cancer Society, in its constant fight to educate the public to early cancer detection and prevention, offers free use of educational films on cancer, sends speakers on the subject to appear before youth and adult groups, and distributes literature on the subject.

Mrs. Ansley said that further information on lung cancer may be obtained from the

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A 10 per cent increase in the regular quarterly dividend has been declared by Bank of America. This increases the dividend from 50 cents per share to 55 cents, or an annual rate of \$2.20 per share on outstanding shares of stock. Payment is scheduled Feb. 28.

local American Cancer Society office at 16503 Hawthorne Blvd., Lawndale.

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Art Photos on Display At Telephone Office

A special exhibit of color photographs by Lee Finley will go on display tomorrow at General Telephone's office in Hermosa Beach, according to Bernard Le Baron, division manager.

Finley has exhibited at the New York World's Fair and for the past three years has participated in the Professional Photographers National Exhibit. Currently, his work is on display in the Photography West exhibit at the Los Angeles County Museum of Science and Industry.

Included on his list of awards are the 1966 Color Portraiture Award from the

Professional Photographers Association of Southern California and a Gold Medal from the 1965 Los Angeles County Fair.

The artist attended the Art Center in Los Angeles and Brooks Institute of Photography, Santa Barbara. He also attended the Professional Photographers School at Winona Lake, Indiana, and studied under William Mortensen of Laguna Beach.

The South Bay service office, 102 Pacific Coast Hwy., will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The exhibit will run for approximately six weeks.