

CITY OF NATIONAL CITY

Proposition O

(This proposition will appear on the ballot in the following form.)

O POLICE FACILITY BOND PROPOSITION: Shall the City of National City incur a bonded indebtedness in the principal amount of \$6,500,000, the estimated cost of the public improvements, for the purpose of the acquisition and construction by said city of a certain municipal improvement, to wit, a new police facility, including off-street parking facilities and landscaping therefor and including the acquisition of land necessary therefor?

TAX RATE STATEMENT

Best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue during the first fiscal year after the first sale of the bonds based on assessed valuations available at the time of the election:

Per \$100 of assessed valuation \$0.07766

Best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue during the first fiscal year after the last sale of the bonds if the bonds are proposed to be sold in series:

N/A (Single Issue)

Best estimate of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue:

Estimated year in which tax rate will apply FY 1988-89
Per \$100 of assessed valuation \$0.07766

CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

Article XIII A of the California Constitution permits bonded indebtedness for the acquisition and improvement of real property by a city if approved by two-thirds of the voters.

The proposed Police Facility Bond Proposition (Proposition "O"), if approved, would permit the City of National City to issue general obligation bonds of up to \$6,500,000 for the acquisition of land for and construction of a new police facility, including off-street parking facilities and landscaping. The actual amount of the bonds could be less than \$6,500,000, depending on the cost of the project.

Approval of this proposition would authorize some increase in property taxes for property located in the city. The actual amount of the increase would depend upon the size of the bond issue, the length of the term over which the bonds are paid off, the cost of the project, and the interest rate on the bonds.

If you desire to authorize the issuance of up to \$6,500,000 in general obligation bonds to construct a new police facility, and to authorize an increase in property taxes to pay for the debt on the bonds, you should vote "yes" on this proposition.

If you do not desire to authorize the issuance of up to \$6,500,000 in general obligation bonds to construct a new police facility, and to authorize an increase in property taxes to pay for the debt on the bonds, you should vote "no" on this proposition.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Proposition "O". If you desire a copy of the Proposition, please call the City Clerk's Office at 336-4226 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

GEORGE H. EISER, III
City Attorney

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION O

There is one primary reason to build a new police building - TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF POLICE SERVICE DELIVERED TO THIS COMMUNITY! The present police station is located in the basement of city hall and was designed in 1963 when the police department had about thirty-three (33) employees. The police department now has three times that number of employees and a significantly higher level of activity. Other than the Coronado police building, the National City police station is the oldest and smallest police facility in this county. The need for a larger, more modern, better equipped building can be seen by comparing the number of police incidents in the years 1963 and 1986:

<u>Police Incidents</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Vehicle Accidents	838	1,523	82%
Injury Accidents	173	645	273%
Hit and Run Accidents	114	515	352%
Crimes Reported	2,663	10,976	312%
Arrests Made	1,547	5,585	261%
Calls for Police Service	21,676	55,000+	154%

During the last three years the "employee turnover rate" - the number of employees who leave the National City Police Department - has been almost twice that of most local agencies. Valuable years of experience are lost every time a police officer leaves, experience that may spell the difference in a life-threatening situation. Tax dollars are also spent to recruit and train their replacements. The overcrowded and ill equipped conditions of the existing police station are definite factors contributing to this turnover rate. A larger, modern police station will allow the City to recruit and retain more qualified personnel which will result in BETTER POLICE SERVICES OF ALL TYPES TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY.

Every person who comes to National City to live, work, shop or recreate deserves IMPROVED POLICE SERVICE. A new, better equipped police building is the cornerstone of that IMPROVEMENT.

GEORGE H. WATERS
Mayor

MARION F. COOPER
Vice Mayor

MICHAEL R. DALLA
Councilman

FRED PRUITT
Councilman

JESS E. VAN DEVENTER
Councilman

ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION O

VOTE NO! ON PROPOSITION O, a \$6 1/2 million BOND ISSUE, which when paid off with interest, will cost our home owners around \$20 million.

More space is needed by our police. This should be built by the City--not our taxpayers. The Average Income in National City is \$15,000 a year. Our Council pays some of its top employees approximately \$100,000 a year AND HAS WIDENED A STREET AND INSTALLED CURBS, GUTTERS AND SIDEWALKS AT NO COST TO BUSINESS.

The City collected some \$10 million in sales taxes this year. After adopting a \$24 million budget, the Council was left with \$6 million reserve. The City has other resources: Federal, State, County Funds.

NOT ONE BOND ISSUE WAS PROPOSED OR PASSED IN NATIONAL CITY IN THE PAST 22 YEARS. During this time we built two senior towers with 300 units, plus a senior recreation center. We spent \$20 million on streets and drainage, plus \$5 million for sewers, \$3 million on parks, \$1 million for a gymnasium, \$1 million on a golf course, and built three community buildings. We developed: South Bay Plaza, Plaza Bonita, the Mile of Cars and Heritage Square. The point is we did all this, and more, **WITHOUT TRYING TO PLACE A BOND ON YOUR HOME FOR YOU TO PAY OFF.**

VOTE NO! on this National City Proposition O Bond. Build the Police Facility with City Funds. The Council is considering the TURNKEY PLAN which insures the builder/consultant will get his money without having to go to bid for the job. This builder/consultant will receive a percentage of the cost of the project, approximately \$1 million. THE SITE IS NOT YET CHOSEN.

VOTE NO! ON THIS BLANK CHECK DEAL!

DORIS M. MCKINNEY

KILE MORGAN

DONNA L. DE MOSS

KENNETH P. ATTAWAY

DARRYL GORHAM

Pro-bond circulars are misleading, former mayor says

STAFF NEWS
12/11/82

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

A flyer encouraging National City voters to support a \$6.5 million bond issue in November has raised the fighting spirit of former Mayor Kyle Morgan.

The flyers were sent to 10,400 registered voters in the city by the Citizens for Better Safety, a committee favoring the \$6.5 million bond to build a new police station, according to Councilman Mike Dalla.

All City Councilman support the bond, but Morgan has said the station could be built without taxpayer money. He and his supporters have campaigned against bond by talking to as many

citizens as possible.

The committee has 27 members and a \$5,000 budget, \$2,000 of which went to make the flyers, Dalla said. The postage for each handout averaged 10 cents, he said.

Morgan said he did not receive a mailer, and rhetorically asked, "How many more did not get it?"

"You are not going to change Kile Morgan's mind on the bond issue. Why waste 20 cents mailing one to him?" Van Deventer said.

"He would do the same thing if he were in our position."

Dalla said some of the committee members had not been sent a

Please see Bond: A-8

Bond

Continued from A-1

lyer by Thursday, but added "nobody was excluded or pulled from the mailing," which was sent out on Monday.

Morgan obtained a mailer from a friend, and said it was inaccurate on a few points. "This thing is misleading and they (the committee) are trying to fool the people. It's highly sneaky to do it this way. Give us the facts and let the voters decide."

Morgan disagreed with a point in the flyer which says the existing police facility has no parking, but said people using the station have parking available in the Waterson College lot on 12th Street. "Most of those parking spaces are left for the city, with some left for the college," he said.

Dalla could not give an exact number of spaces delegated to the police, but said the college fills up most of them. "Go there most any day of the week and you will have difficulty finding a place. I would not call that adequate

parking for the police station," he said.

Van Deventer said three or four public parking spaces are in the station lot across the street on A Avenue, but are filled most of the time.

Morgan also noted the use of a 15,000 square foot figure in the information used to compare the size of the station with others in the county, which does not include the 4,000 feet of rented space for detective offices.

Committee chairman Louis Natividad said the 15,000 figure was put in to emphasize the separate locations of the two buildings, noting the 4,000

square foot figure was included elsewhere in the flyer.

"The point we are making is that the 19,000 square feet are not together in one building," he said. Other information in the flyer shows the increase in crime, arrests and numbers of officers since the current station was proposed in 1963.

Natividad said he wants a station to fit the city's growing needs, saying its planning has always been done with a small-town attitude.

Morgan said voters have always been informed about the issues and voted well in the past. "There's no use to downgrade

the people of National City. They know the difference between what is a bond and what's not."

Van Deventer said the mailer was informative and did not contain any unclear language. "We wanted to inform the people that the proposition is on the ballot and everything they will be voting on."

The response to a mail-back card asking for support of the bond has been positive so far, Dalla said. About 100 cards have been returned this week from residents living in both single-family home and apartment complexes.

Supporters of bond form organization

STARNEWS
10/1/87

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Supporters of the \$6.5 million bond issue for a new police station have organized and raised about \$3,500 for their cause.

The opposition, led by former Mayor Kile Morgan has gone into the community, shook hands, and talked over issues with the public in their homes and on the streets. Morgan and his supporters have not yet organized or raised any money.

Chairman Luis Natividad of the Committee for Better Public Safety in support of Proposition O said he has 27 people in his group, which organized Sept. 9 at Granger Music Hall.

The committee will meet weekly, planning the strategy for a successful passage of the proposition in November, which would

help finance the proposed \$7.67 million station.

Natividad said each member has brought in a list 20 names who can be noted as supporting the bond. Telephone campaigns, flyers, lawn signs, bumper stickers and buttons are among ways the committee plans to get across its message.

The group has set a \$5,000 funding goal, with most of the contributions coming from the Mile of Cars. The California Fair Political Practices Committee has been notified of the contributions, with total disclosure figures to be given later this week.

Mayor George Waters said he has helped to raise money for the effort and is optimistic about the passage of the bond issue.

Please see Bond: A-6

Letters to the editor

10/1/87
STARNEWS

Officers in chase should be punished

If ever bad judgment was used in a highspeed chase it was Sunday, Sept. 20, when National City police chased a car thief suspect up the wrong way on a freeway transition. Miraculously, no one was seriously injured or killed when a truck entering the ramp met the police head-on, creating a

pile-up.

The victim in the truck, Mr. Powell, is most certainly lucky to be alive. Had he been driving a compact car, he may not have survived such a spectacular crash. Also, had it been a weekday morning, more motorists would have been involved and the results could have been disastrous.

The first question that comes to mind is, why wasn't San Diego Police or Highway Patrol called in immediately to intercept the suspect? Was the NCPD more preoccupied with making their "collar" than

allowing a suspect to escape?

Obviously, the safety of innocent motorists was not a priority. This was a callous, total disregard for public safety.

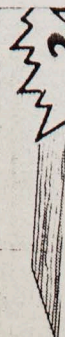
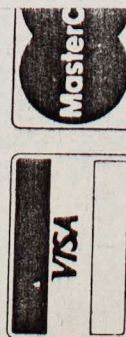
This kind of irresponsible act should not go unpunished. All five police officers should be suspended immediately pending investigation and those causing the accident fired. To do less would be to condone this kind of practice and subject future motorists to further danger.

ROBERT L. MARTINEZ
Co-Chairman Coalition for
Law & Justice
San Diego

The Star-News, Thursday, October 1, 1987



ASK ABOUT O
Service Protec plan
SERVICE PROTECTION N.Y.M.A.N.
* Lay-Away Plan Available
* Delivery Available



Bond

Continued from A-1

"All I am is a kind of bystander. My job is to help them raise money," he said. "I'm hearing mostly positive comments and I think it has a good chance of passing."

Natividad said his supporters a mixture of business owners and residents, with police representatives and all the City Council on his side. However, police personnel can only campaign off duty and only two council members can meet at a time.

Former Mayor Kile Morgan has former City Council can-

didate Daryl Gorham on his side in opposition to the bond, and may form a committee to fight it.

The opposition has said a police station should be built without a bond. They propose consolidation of the police department in the Civic Center and construction of new city hall.

"To put \$20 million on the backs of the people when we are paying some city workers \$100,000 is incomprehensible. It's just not fair," Morgan said. He added city employees like the city manager and attorney make

\$100,000 per year, which includes salaries and benefits.

Morgan bases the \$20 million figure on an estimate of the \$700,000 to \$900,000 yearly interest the city will have to pay on a 30 year bond.

Gorham said he "is 100 percent" against the measure, and was also opposed it in last year's elections. He is also trying to set up the Committee for a Citizen's Forum with Morgan, a general political group concerned with many issues.

"We will have a lot of clout

and will not target our efforts. We feel the council is not responsible," he said. He plans to run for council in 1988.

Gorham has also talked to many people in the community, including many prominent business owners.

"Just by talking to people you can get a lot done," he said. "We don't have the power they have, but I've talked to as many homeowners as I can.

"The average income in National City is \$15,000. We just cannot be taxed any more. Many

people go without the last three or four days of the month. My indication is that the people of National City can't afford a new station," Gorham said.

Natividad argued the city deserves quality police service and the community can afford it, noting the increases in crime since the present station was built in 1966.

"This city has always, in general, had a small-time mentality. My planning program is that the city is going to be larger. More people bring in more crime," he said. "The argument

is quality of service of your police department. They have a basement, which was started for 100 employees."

In last November's election, a similar bond issue failed to reach the required two-thirds majority. This year, Natividad wants to inform people, make the issue clear, and get people out to vote.

"I hope the people really take a good look at the proposition," he said. "More important is: if you're for or against it, go out and vote. That's why we lost the last one, because we assumed we had the vote."

STALNEWS
9/20/87

Garry Edwards, Publisher
Dale Morton, Managing Editor

Letters to the editor

Greatest need is a new police station

I recently made some comments at a public meeting about myself and other officers who would resign from the police department if a new police building is not built. Some people, including your paper, characterized those comments as "threats" to the voters; other people hearing the same comments interpreted them as expressions of how urgent and desperate the need for a new police building has become.

The purpose of my letter is to publicly apologize to anyone who interpreted my comments as a "threat" and to offer a brief explanation as to what my message was intended to mean. Therefore, to those who interpreted my comments as threats — I'm sorry. I did not intend them to be.

Those who know me personally know that I do not believe the voters in this town will build a new police building just because the chief of police said he will resign. The police department and the service it provides to the people of this community is *far more important* than any one chief of police. I replaced the chief before me — I know someone will replace me when I go, no matter what way I go.

The purpose of my comments was to simply illustrate how critical the need for a new police building has become over the last few years. Too many people

believe the "need" for a new police building is only one year old. This is a reasonable assumption given that most citizens only became aware of the issue at last year's general elections.

The truth is that the "need" for a new building is already almost four years old. (Yes, the city council and city management began studies and discussions about the need for additional space for the police almost four years ago!)

If the bond measure is approved in November, it will still take two years to build and occupy the building. Therefore, it will have been six years since we started on a program to relieve the cramped and obsolete conditions of our present police building and to build a new building that will result in *improved police service for all people of this community*.

Surely, people can understand how and why their police officers and I have felt frustrated because we have not been able to convince enough people of the *urgency* of the need to build a new police building. For whatever reasons, our efforts have not been successful.

We desperately need the help of the citizens of this community. We need each of you to tour *your* police building and make up your own mind. If you become convinced, we need you to convince your neighbor, your friend or your relative. A police building is a community building and it requires community participation.

This year, just as last year, the group opposing this bond measure is led by ex-Mayor Kile

Morgan. No one who has lived, worked, shopped or recreated in National City during the last 20 years has to be reminded of the good things that Mayor Morgan accomplished for this city during his reign and, therefore, you will not hear me making negative comments about him and his past accomplishments, except on this one issue — the need to build a new police building and not a new city hall.

The opposition has publicly stated — "More space is needed by our police." This statement is the opening sentence in the second paragraph of their argument. Please read it; you'll see it for yourself.

The opposition implies that there are state and federal funds available to build the police building. Ask yourself one question — If that were true, why didn't Mayor Morgan obtain these funds during the last two and one half years of his administration when the need for building a new police building was being reviewed, discussed and decided?

The answer is very simple — there are no such funds. If there were, the city council on a 4-1 vote would have built the police building two years ago!

I beg every National City citizen to please get involved in this issue. Review the facts; make up your own mind and vote according to your own perception of the needs of this community. Do you need improved police service in this town or a bigger city hall?

TERRY HART
Chief of Police
National City

Take a tour of the city police dept.

I hope you publish this letter as *The Star-News* for one reason or another has not given our wonderful police officers of National City enough publicity concerning the need for a better police department building.

The people of National City have to be made aware of the horrendous working conditions that the police face and have to work in daily. The fact that all

of our surrounding communities have normal or better facilities only serves to demoralize the officers more each day. This has gotten to the point that some of the officers are being lured elsewhere.

The police are now desperate enough to offer any disbelieving citizen a tour of their tiny basement and front desk where criminals and victims have to share the same crowded space. They will also show any disbelievers the boxes on the floor where the records are kept.

Those taking the tour will get

a view of the officers waiting their turn to use a desk to complete reports filed with the department. Any questions will be answered that need be in order to convince the people to vote yes on proposition O on Nov. 3.

If you are seriously concerned and want a tour of the station please call 477-5049 in the daytime and after five call 267-3566. Please do not call the station. The tour will be arranged by calling the above mentioned numbers.

10/8/87
S. News
AMELIA FIERRO
National City

We are the solution to our problem

Everyone agrees the City of National City needs a new police facility. The only questions to be answered are where and how to finance the proposed needed facility.

I whole-heartedly support Proposition "O" on this November's ballot to build a new police facility. I was opposed to the police bond issue of 1986 for three basic reasons:

(1) The proposed sight for a new police station in 1986 was the southeast corner of Plaza Boulevard and National City Boulevard. Because acquiring this sight would have meant the condemning and evicting of

nine single-family homes and its residents. I was against this proposed sight, which is no longer being considered. For the police facility, the sight selection now has been narrowed to the northwest corner of Civic Center Drive and National City Boulevard. I support this sight.

(2) In 1986, the proponents of Proposition "O" quoted the people of National City a price of roughly \$40 per home owner, per year. I know this quote was not truthful, and stated so in several forums preceding the 1986 City Council elections. The now accurate cost is .07 per \$100 of access value; therefore, a \$50,000 home would be accessed \$35 per year; a \$100,000 home \$70 per year, etc.

This will be the cost to build a police facility that will fill the needs of the National City Police Department and serve the citizens of National City for the

next 50 years. I feel National City citizens now know the true cost.

(3) Prior to 1987, the federal, state and county governments, through several programs such as block grants and revenue sharing offered financial assistance to cities in need of major municipal improvement. I felt that with National City's obvious need of a new police facility, a source of financial assistance for such a costly item must exist.

However, after beating on the doors in Washington, D.C., Sacramento, and the County of San Diego, no funds exist to aid our need. Therefore, if we are to address our need for a new police facility, we must look to ourselves for a solution.

10/8/87
S. News
FRED PRUITT
Councilman
National City

Cost of jail bond 77 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation

*Stoernews
9/3/87*

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Formal arguments both for and against a \$6.5 million bond proposition to finance a new city police department were released last week by National City Clerk Ione Campbell.

Campbell also issued an impartial analysis on "Proposition O" from City Attorney George Eiser and an estimated cost of the bond to taxpayers if it is approved.

Voters will decide in November if they want a \$6.5 million bond issue added on property taxes to help finance a new \$8.83 million police station. A similar measure last November did not get the required two-thirds vote.

In his comments on the arguments, Mayor George Waters said that Police Chief Terry Hart apologized for comments made at a recent Chamber of Commerce membership breakfast. Hart told the Chamber he would consider leaving the department and that 35 to 40 officers would leave if the bond was not accepted.

"He said he got overanxious where interviews were taking place in a public forum," Waters said. Hart could not be reached Tuesday for comment.

"I gave this some real thought when the council asked me to head up the argument for the bond," Waters said, adding he was concerned about the need to put the department in one building and to keep officers from moving to other agencies.

Former mayor Kile Morgan is heading opposition for the bond, claiming a new city hall should be built and the police department consolidated in the present Civic Center. He was opposed to the bond last year, also.

"It is against all the principals I have to put a bond on the people of the city," he said. "I can build a Civic Center without a bond."

"We should have been taking some action on this years ago," Waters said. "I'm going to work hard to convince people of the need for the new police station. I will call attention to the people that federal funding has been cut off. It's not like the old days when grants were available on a routine basis.

"I'm not interested in an all out battle with anyone in opposition to the bond. We should stick to the needs of the citizens," Waters said.

He and the City Council formulated the argument favoring the proposition, while Morgan and four other local citizens signed the argument against. They include: Doris McKinney, former Civil Service commissioner; retired barber Kenneth Attaway; former council candidate Daryl Gorham and long-time resident Donna DeMoss.

The best estimate of the proposed tax rate levied on all property owners in the city to fund the bond is \$.07766 per \$100 valuation, starting in the 1988-89

Please see Pro-Con: A-8

Police Incidents	1963	1986	Percent Increase
Vehicle Accidents	838	1,523	82
Injury Accidents	173	645	273
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Crimes Reported	2,663	10,976	312
Arrests Made	1,547	5,585	261
Calls for Police Service	21,676	55,000+	154

Pro-Con

Continued from A-1

fiscal year. For example, a \$100,000 house would be assessed \$77.66 per year. According to City Attorney George Eiser, the actual amount of the bonds could be less than \$6.5 million, depending on the cost of the project.

He wrote that the proposition would authorize some increase in property taxes, with the actual amount depending on the size, term and the interest rate of the bonds, and the actual cost of the project.

He instructed people to vote "yes" or "no" on the proposition on the basis of authorizing the city to build the station and increase property taxes.

The council's argument in favor of the proposition follows:

"There is one primary reason to build a new police building—to improve the quality of police service delivered to this community! The present police station is located in the basement of city hall and was designed in 1963 when the police department had about 33 employees.

"The police department now has three times that number of employees and a significantly higher level of activity. Other than the Coronado police building, the National City police station is the oldest and smallest police facility in this county.

"The need for a larger, more modern, better equipped building

can be seen by comparing the number of police incidents in the years 1963 and 1986: (see chart). During the last three years the 'employee turnover rate,' the number of employees who leave the National City Police Department, has been almost twice that of most local agencies. Valuable years of experience are lost every time a police officer leaves, experience that may spell the difference in a life-threatening situation. Tax dollars are also spent to recruit and train their replacements.

"The overcrowded and ill-equipped conditions of the existing police station are definite factors contributing to this turnover rate. A larger, modern police station will allow the city to recruit and retain more qualified personnel which will result in better police services of all types to the people of this community.

"Every person who comes to National City to live, work, shop or recreate deserves improved police service. A new, better equipped police building is the cornerstone of that improvement."

Morgan's argument against the proposition:

"Vote no on Proposition O, a \$6.5 million bond issue, which when paid off with interest, will cost our home owners around \$20 million. More space is needed by our police. This should be built

by the city, not our taxpayers. The average income in National City is \$15,000 a year.

"Our council pays some of its top employees approximately \$100,000 a year and has widened a street and installed curbs, gutters and sidewalks at no cost to business. The city collected some \$10 million in sales taxes this year. After adopting a \$24 million budget, the council was left a \$6 million reserve. The city has other resources: federal, state and county funds.

"Not one bond issue was proposed or passed in National City in the past 22 years. During this time we built two senior towers with 300 units, plus a senior recreation center. We spent \$20 million on streets and drainage, plus \$5 million for sewers, \$3 million on parks, \$1 million for a gymnasium, \$1 million on a golf course and built three community buildings.

"We developed: South Bay Plaza, Plaza Bonita, the Mile of Cars and Heritage Square. The point is we did this, and more, without trying to place a bond on your home to pay off.

"Vote no on this National City Proposition O bond. Build the police facility with city funds. The council is considering the turnkey plan which insures the builder and consultant will get his money without having to go to bid for the job.

"This builder and consultant will receive a percentage of the cost of the project, approximately \$1 million. The site is not yet chosen. Vote no on this blank check deal!"

Police chief, officers threaten to resign if voters don't approve bonds for station

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

National City Police Chief Terry Hart announced Wednesday that he would leave the department and 35 to 40 officers would resign if a new police station is not built.

The announcement came during a Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting at Jimmy's Restaurant on Plaza Boulevard. Hart, addressing business people attending the meeting, attempted to convince them of

the merits of a new \$8.83 million police headquarters for the community.

In November, voters will decide if they are willing to add a \$6.3 million bond issue to be their tax rolls to partially finance the station. A similar measure on last November's ballot failed to get a required two-thirds vote.

"If in fact this was not accepted, I would look for another job. I do not want to spend my life working in a negative environment," he said. "If the police facility is not accomplished, 35 to 40 officers will leave.

There is no way in hell this city can absorb that loss."

Hart said he has officers on waiting lists ready to leave. The loss would amount to one-half of the city's patrol officers and ranking officers. The department has 53 patrol officers and 19 lieutenants, captains and sergeants.

Acting Capt. Tom Deese, head of the National City Police Officer's Association, said

Please see Chief: A-9

8/23/87

Chief

Continued from A-1

Hart's estimate is fairly accurate, but did not expect the men to stage a mass walkout. He said they would leave over a period of months.

"It's not going to happen overnight," Deese said. "These men are acting independently, completely on their own, and are taking actions should their future not be here. It's no secret...without a building there is no future."

Deese said the police department is not threatening anyone, just explaining the facts. "It's going to happen. People of this town deserve better police service."

Lt. Bill Osburn said the average National City officer makes about \$30,000 a year — ranging from \$26,000 for a rookie to \$32,600 for a four-year veteran. If 40 officers left, the impact in salary loss to the city payroll would be \$1.2 million.

"My opinion is that our officers draw a good salary," Mayor George Waters said Thursday. "I don't believe he (Hart) should make statements to hold the public hostage...To me, he's not using much common sense. I think he should knock it off."

Hart said the handwriting is on the wall. Two sergeants just resigned — although not necessarily as a result of the bond issue — and approximately 20 percent of the department's officers leave each year. New officers fill the open positions, but recruits are not fully productive until they undergo 10 months of training and testing, he said.

Most officers leave the force because better paying jobs await them, Hart said, adding other agencies recognize the experience they gain in National City. Hart said the district attorney's investigative office hires a many National City officers.

"Our officers get seven to 10 years worth of experience in five years," he said. "Our patrol officers make decisions made by sergeants and investigators and get experience very quickly. We don't want to continue to lose people."

"The only reason to build a new station is that it would significantly improve the police service in the community," Hart said, adding National City has one of the oldest and smallest stations in the county.

He produced records showing that arrests and patrol stops have increased significantly since 1963, when the Civic Center was first planned.

The police headquarters were built in 1966 and are in the basement of the Civic Center on National City Boulevard. Detective offices are located in rented space on 12th Street.

The station has no public restrooms and limited conference and interview space, Hart said.

"Who wants to come in the lobby with a significant or private problem in front of six other citizens," he said, referring to a small lobby in the station.

Hart also explained that there are no partitions between detectives, and that conversations between police and subjects can get confusing and are

"It's not going to happen overnight. These men are acting independently, completely on their own, and are taking actions should their future not be here. It's no secret...without a building there is no future."

— Acting Capt. Tom Deese

not private. Victims and witnesses would not be as candid, providing less information for detectives to solve and prosecute crimes.

"You would be affected by other conversations," he said. "You cannot carry on a private, personal conversation regarding a crime in this open arena. The police facility we now have is too small for what we now do," Hart said, adding that the basement station has already been remodeled eight times.

"Seven people use one office that is smaller than a prison cell over different periods of the day, he said."

Hart would also like space in the station for a public meeting room and facilities for community volunteer programs.

Starboard Development of San Diego has proposed a 42,000 square foot headquarters to be built across from the Civic Center on National City Boulevard, but other locations may still be considered. The term of the \$6.5 million bond would be 30 years, costing a single family homeowner an extra \$35 to \$40 dollars per year.

Finance Director Alex Caloza said the exact assessments were still being computed, but the tax would be placed on all property owners in National City.

Last year a similar bond issue failed to capture the two-thirds majority, with 56 percent of voters favoring the issue. Then-Mayor Kile Morgan led the opposition, proposing a new city hall and consolidating the police department in the existing Civic Center.

Councilman Fred Pruitt was opposed to the manner of funding the station when he ran as a candidate for City Council in November, but now favors the bond, saying no state or federal funds would be available for the station.

Pruitt was also opposed to the eviction of nine property owners at Morgan's proposed Plaza Boulevard and National City Boulevard Site, but acknowledged one property owner would have to be evicted under the bond proposal.

The councilman agreed with Mayor Waters' comments that the police chief was making inappropriate threats.

Including office workers, the police department salary budget is \$2.9 million a year — nearly one-half the total department budget of \$6.2 million. The police department budget is 25 percent of the annual city budget, making it the largest single expenditure.

Controversial bond issue ignites debate

Morgan, Waters square-off over best plan for city

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

A referendum seeking voter support for a \$6.5 million bond issue has turned into a political showdown between former National City Mayor Kile Morgan and current Mayor George Waters.

What otherwise should have been a mundane yes or no decision at the polls this November has grown into major issue with the future of the city police department on line.

Ironically, the issue is not what needs to be done — provide additional space for city offices and consolidate the police department into one, larger facility — but how to accomplish this goal.

Morgan, who led opposition to the bond while mayor last year, vowed to continue his fight. He wants council members to build a new city hall and remodel the ex-

isting building for police.

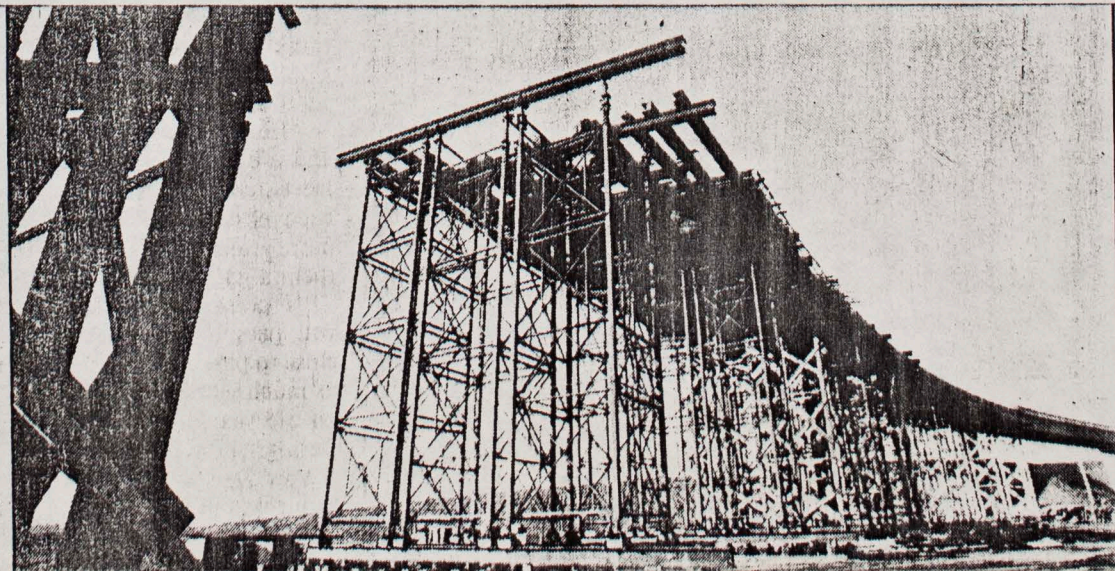
"I can build a city hall without a bond issue," Morgan said, adding the project could be financed through federal, state and private sources. "I would remodel the old city hall into an absolutely first class station. All 15 departments would have all the room they need."

Morgan said he has "helped build most every important project in the city without the use of bonds. I think we could build a new city hall for not one penny over what they're proposing now. How many times have I been wrong on these things? I have been a builder estimating costs all my life."

"When Kile was mayor there were several ways of getting federal and other money. That kind of money isn't available now," Waters said. "The easiest

Please see Mayors: A-9

LA/EL/S



Continued from A-1

way to build the station without cutting other projects is to use the bond route."

City councilman Jess Van Deventer agreed that federal money is not as available now as it was during Morgan's administration. Therefore, a "turnkey" developer was chosen to speed along the process.

Starboard Development of San Diego has proposed an \$8.83 million, 42,000-square-foot building for the police department. Although an exact location has not been determined for the proposed police department, property at the corner of 16th and National City Boulevard is thought to be the first choice.

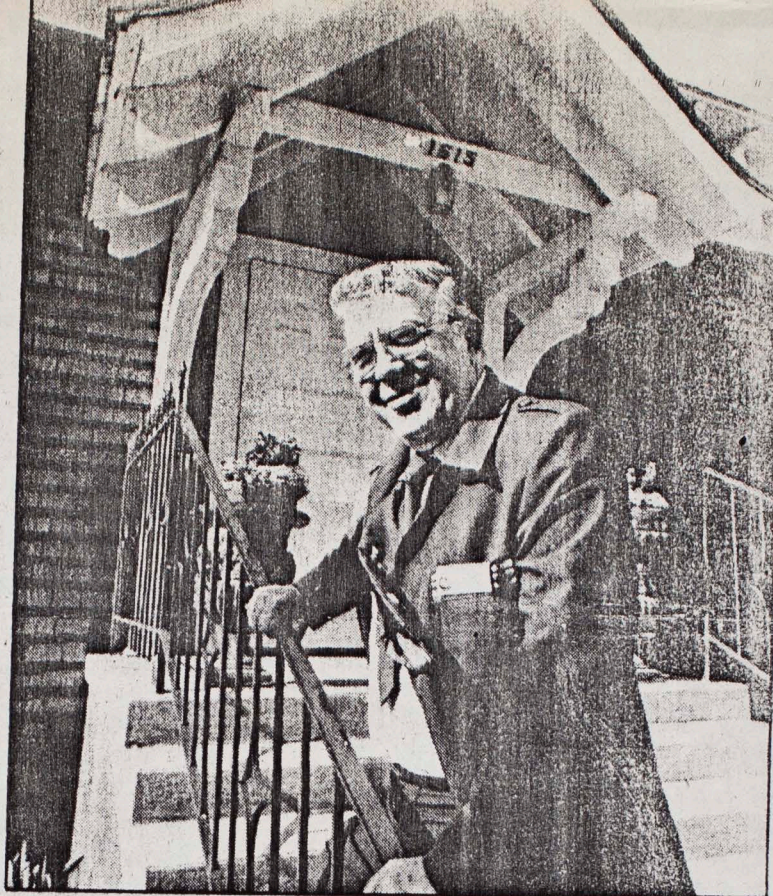
Officials from Starboard said the landowner, a local car dealer, was willing to negotiate with the city and that tenant relocations would be much simpler compared to alternative sites.

A major disadvantage to the property, situated at the west end of Kimball Park, is its location in a 100-year flood plain. Although the cost to overcome the flooding danger would be within budget, a higher ground location might not resolve access to the station during a flood.

Starboard studies said streets remaining at the lower elevation would be subject to flooding.

The city has already contributed \$100,000 to build the station and committed \$450,000 over the next few years for fixtures and furnishings. Revenue sharing funds and tax allocation bond proceeds would be used to pay the difference between the proposed bond money and actual construction costs.

The controversy thickened Wednesday morning when National City Police Chief Terry



Mayor George Waters

"I don't think he's being fair to this administration. We're back to the old stuff, the arguing and fighting. I think the public is tired of it. He should let this administration do what they want."

— Mayor George Waters

Hart threatened to resign if voters did not approve money for a new station. He said the situation is so bad about half his department would follow in the ensuing months. Currently the police department operates from the civic center basement and rents office space on 12th Avenue for the detective bureau. (See lead story.)

Morgan said moving the police equipment into a new building

would be an expensive proposition. He said partitions in the Civic Center could easily be altered to accommodate police officers.

Morgan said the \$20 million estimate for his new city hall was inaccurate. He said a 40,000-square-foot building could be constructed for \$4 million — or about one-half the cost for a police station. And, Morgan is opposed to the turnkey plan — where a developer receives a certain percentage of the project cost.

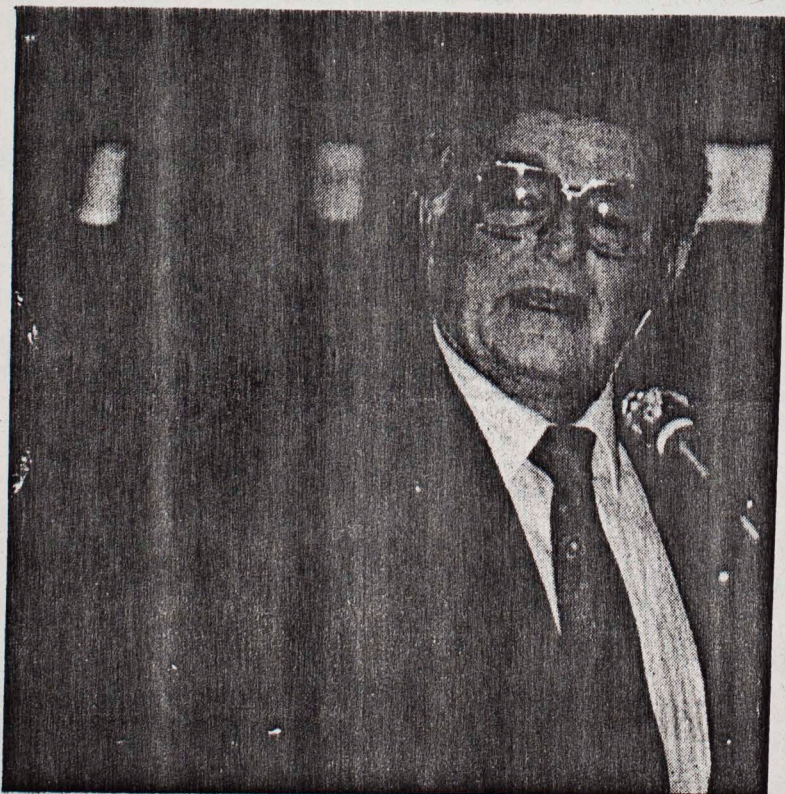
While mayor, Morgan said he was extremely hard-nosed. He had other feelings about the current administration. "You've got these people who really don't know what they are doing up there. They don't have plans going from one year, to five years, to ten years down the line."

"I don't think he's being fair to this administration," Waters said. "We're back to the old stuff, the arguing and fighting. I think the public is tired of it. He should let this administration do what they want."

"He left us with many lawsuits and a broken city council," Van Deventer commented. "We've been elected to save the people money and we're trying to give them a good quality station."

"I personally think the bond will pass this time. It came so close to passing last time with not as much work put into it. This is an off year, and we will let our feelings show."

Van Deventer expressed concern that building a new city hall would create a major land acquisition problem. "We would be tied up in legal battles for years. Do we have that kind of time to wait for a new police station?"



Former Mayor Kile Morgan

"You've got these people who really don't know what they are doing up there. They don't have plans going from one year, to five years, to ten years down the line."

— Former Mayor Kile Morgan

Residents would relocate if new city hall were built

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Relocating property owners who would be affected by either side of the bond issue controversy will probably not be difficult.

A survey of residents in the area of 16th and D streets by *The Star-News* revealed most people were willing to cooperate with the city by accepting a fair market value for their property in order to have a new municipal civic center built on their block.

Under a plan from former Mayor Kile Morgan, homes on the block would be torn down to make room for the facility. Police operations could then be consolidated into existing space at the civic center.

Morgan said the new police station would cost \$4 million to build and would be paid for through federal, state and private funds. Mayor George Waters claims Morgan's project would cost \$20 million.

Waters favors a \$6.5 million bond issue to build a new police station on the corner of 16th and National City Boulevard and renovate the civic center into additional office space. His plan would require acquisition of a car dealership.

Last November, a similar \$6.5 million bond measure failed to capture the needed two-thirds vote.

The homes in the block proposed for

Morgan's project are a mixture of rentals and privately owned homes, but is zoned for general commercial. Most of the homeowners rent another house on the block. There are 12 buildings in the block, including a duplex.

"Let them have it. I'd like to move anyway," said Thelma Gordon of 1519 Avenue, adding she would have no objections toward selling her property. She said she would not support a bond issue for a new police station because it would cost too much to the taxpayer.

Gordon estimated the value of her two properties, based on past property valuations, to be about \$130,000. Her son, Darrel, was an unsuccessful candidate for city council last November.

Other homeowners were not as eager to sell, but said they would consider a friendly buyout if the issue reaches that point.

Ann and Jim Graham have lived in their house on the corner of 15th and E for 20 years and have reared five children there. Ann Graham favors a new police station instead of a new city hall on the block, but would move if forced to.

"I would miss this place, but I guess you've got to sometimes move in the face of progress. It's up to the majority to say and we should go along with it. Any money spent for the police is money well spent," she said. "They are in need of new station. They have outgrown the old one and need a larger facility."

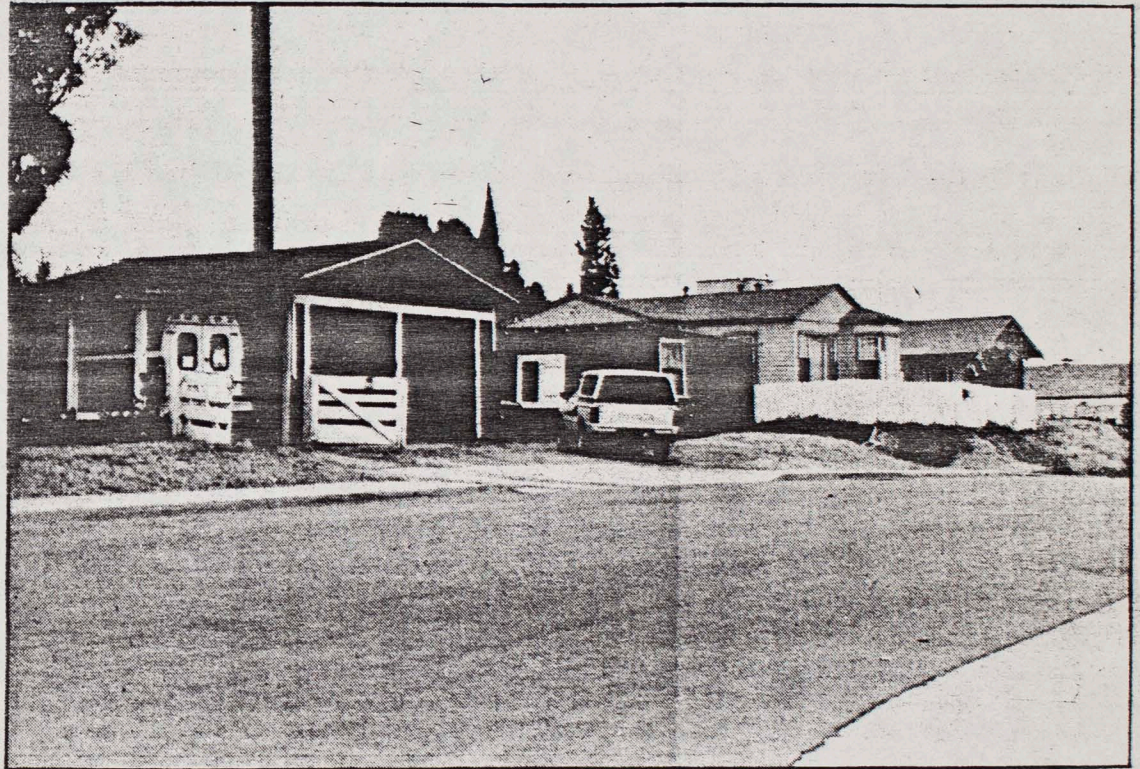


Photo by George McCrory

Residents along 15th Street would have to be relocated if city councilmembers decided to follow the recommendation of former Mayor Kile Morgan and build a new city hall. A majority of the landowners said they like where they are at, but would not fight the city.

Ray Cox, who lives at 415 E. 16th, said he would "probably go with the rest of the property owners," but would hate to move. He bought his house in 1956 and rents another next door. He likes living there, but said there is too much traffic and noise from the fire station across the street.

Cox's tenant, Lottie McBain said the city

could go ahead with the new city hall on the block. "I'd have to move, but that's OK," she said.

Another renter in the block also said they had no objections to Morgan's plan. "I think a new city hall should go here and the police should use the old station," said David Gartner of 408 E. 15th St.

Plans submitted for \$8.8 million police station

7/9/87

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Plans for an \$8.83 million police station were submitted to the National City Council by Starboard Development during a Tuesday workshop session.

The majority of the funding would come from proceeds of a \$6.28 million bond issue, which could be placed before voters in November.

Last fall, National City voters narrowly defeated a \$6.5 million bond issue to finance a new facility.

The council did not enter into an agreement with Starboard, wanting more time to study the proposal. It did retain bond counsel and hired Deloitte, Haskins and Sells to review the financial aspects of the proposal, paying them not more than \$3,500.

Assistant City Manager Jerry Bolint expected some council action by July 21. The council last month directed Starboard to provide cost estimate and study four potential sites.

Brad Saunders of Starboard

presented the plans to the council, which included selection of the Plasma site at National City Boulevard and Civic Center drive as the most favorable location for a new station.

Saunders said three other potential sites were not chosen because of problems in acquiring land or would be difficult to build on.

The 62,000 square foot plasma site was selected because it was near the Civic Center and had a high visibility that would inhibit crime in the neighborhood, according to the report.

Saunders said a bridge could later be constructed from the Civic Center to the new station. A 7 foot fall on the site would allow a two-level parking lot at the back of the facility.

"All but one owner-occupant was reluctant to sell," Saunders said. "As far as economy, it appears to be the most favorable site."

If a bond issue passes, he said, the new station could be completed and occupied by March 1989.

Please see Plans: A-6

Plans

Continued from A-1

In the Starboard proposal, the city and its Community Development Commission would join under the Joint Powers Act in order to obtain more tax increment funds after a bond issue passed.

Besides bond revenue and taxes, Saunders said, federal funds and \$100,000 already in the city budget would finance the project. An additional \$550,000 city contribution over several years would cover any fixtures and furnishings needed for the station.

He said the city would not be liable for any extra costs incurred, but any savings would revert to the city. The construction would bid out, with minority-run companies having 20 percent participation.

"We don't want the city to be put in a box as far as what they're going to pay," Saunders said.

Starboard would collect a 10 percent fee for privately developing and then turning over the facility to the city, or about \$765,500. Payment by the city would be subject to its acceptance and noting completion of work, expiration of a lien period, and an audit of Starboard by Price,

Waterhouse and Co.

In the architect's plans, the new 42,000 square foot station would be three levels, with a port on one side to drop off prisoners. A pistol range and modular office, cubicles would also be included.

Bolint said presenting a bond issue to the public would require four out of five council members voting favorably on the issue. They must call for the issue before July 28 to be on the November 4 ballot.

Starboard developed a similar turnkey plan for the San Diego Police Headquarters.

READER
3-3-83

City Lights

The Way You Look Tonight

When Herman Baca calls the National City Police Department "the worst in the county," police chief Terry Hart doesn't even wince. Chief Hart has heard it all from Baca, head of the Committee on Chicano Rights and easily the county's most fiery minority rhetorician. But now Baca's telling reporters that National City police aren't only the worst, "they're the dumbest, and they're gonna get caught, sooner or later."

Baca doesn't like the fact that National City police help the U.S. Border Patrol round up suspected Mexican illegals. He's now waging a 1978 memo from former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell that orders local police departments "not to stop, question, detain, arrest, or place on immigration hold" anyone who simply looks like an illegal immigrant. Such inquiries, argues Baca, can only be made in the course of investigating a suspect in a local crime. But on January 10, Baca saw two young men stopped, handcuffed, and arrested by a National City officer. A Baca associate followed up on the arrest, and learned the men were turned over to the border patrol and presumably escorted back into Tijuana.

At least two other such detentions were logged last month. Chief Hart doesn't contest Baca's claims, and admits that no records of the interrogations are kept, a practice Baca charges is "behind-the-woodshed law enforcement."



Herman Baca

Photograph by Jack Yon

To keep patrolmen wary, Baca has asked fifty members and associates of his committee to notify him should they ever be stopped and questioned by a National City cop who incorrectly guesses they are aliens. That would be just the sort of "dumb goof-up" Baca's waiting for, and he says a false arrest suit would be filed quickly by his attorneys and the local ACLU. The controversy has already been discussed before the city council, and the local semiweekly newspaper, the *Star News*, came down in support of Baca's stance. Hart, one of the county's more media-savvy police chiefs, agrees that his officers mustn't stop people solely because they may be illegals, and he's now promised to issue a written departmental policy on the subject. The chief also says every patrolman will fill out a "field interview slip" noting why suspects are stopped and eventually questioned about their citizenship.

But Hart won't compromise further. He says the field interview reports will never be turned over to Baca's group for review, and reiterates that his officers don't have to tell any suspect why he or she is being stopped and questioned or what crime they may be suspected of. Hart also doesn't apologize for the fact that his officers stop more Hispanics than Anglos. "The one thing no one here wants to talk about is that our population is heavily Hispanic [about forty percent], and most of our descriptions [of crime suspects] are Hispanics," he says. The police chief also says Baca is overreacting. Hart remembers the days seven or eight years ago when South Bay police routinely went alien hunting and turned over illegals to the border patrol. For their trouble, the cops got a bounty of three or four boxes of practice ammunition.

— P.K.

Reaction to NCPD Gen. Order # 83-1 dated 8 MAR 83

1x The CCR is responsible for the issuing of this order. I personally feel that it is a concession since Lt. Fowler (I believe) told me in a telephone conversation that a policy would never be issued. We should take credit for exposing the fact that individual NCPD officers were enforcing fed. immigr. law without training (according to Lt. Nosal) and without department guidelines.

item #1 of page 1 of the policy is a victory — small but ours

2x This gen. order is of course only a tactic. The discretion of the NCPD ~~is~~ can be used to selectively enforce.

The line on page 1 (3 lines from bottom) is a direct response to the "instinct" charge. i.e. "The officer must be able to demonstrate sufficient probable cause for the initial contact, which cannot be that the officer suspected a subject was an undocumented

"ENCUENTRO CULTURA DE FRONTERA"

INVITADO DE HONOR: Lic. Hugo Castro Aranda
Presidente del Colegio Nacional de Sociólogos
de México
Representado por:
Dra. Marcela Pérez De Alba

COMITE ORGANIZADOR: Lic. Enrique Galván Bartolini, Presidente - B.C.
David Avalos, Presidente - California
Lic. Alicia Coulter, Vice-Presidenta - Mexicali
Elsa Arnáiz de Toledo, Vice Presidenta - Tijuana
Alurista
Lic. Eugenia Kuttler
Marjorie Crandell
Gina Cord

COMITE EDITORIAL: Dr. Jose B. Cuéllar, SDSU
Dr. Tom Davies, SDSU
Dr. Edelmi Griva Cerrano, Departamento de Desarrollo
Social. B.C.
Lic. Javier del Río, Centro de Estudios Fronterizos.
B. C.
Lic. Ma. Luisa Rodríguez Sala, UNAM
Lic. Enrique Galván Bartolini, FONAPAS.

person x "

Another victory x

- 3x The completion of a radio dispatch card (on page 3) is another victory although we should emphasize that the card should note whether or not the apprehended individuals were released or processed by the B.P.
- 4x We have succeeded in focusing a light ~~on~~ on the NCPD's behind the woodshed approach x Of course the general order is just an attempt to cover their ass with paper x
- 5x The threat of our 50 people and the threat of a law suit must be maintained x That is if we hear of a case that is clearly a violation x Denise and the NLG should be asked about whether we proceed with a class action as opposed to a specific case
- 6x The long delay on the part of the City Council is a tactic which should be condemned. Far from investigating the charges they are giving Terry Hart every opportunity to put his house in order

Artist Fears L.A. To Censor Work

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The creator of a mural depicting the history of Los Angeles minorities is fighting for ownership rights to her work, saying she fears it could be censored by the city officials who commissioned it.

Artist Barbara Carrasco said Community Redevelopment Agency officials once tried to get her to remove certain scenes from her unfinished mural, "LA History — A Mexican Perspective," so she now is refusing to finish it until she is assured she will have permanent ownership and control over it.

She said one official wanted her to delete or modify what were considered inflammatory images that might embarrass the city if the 16-by-80-foot work is displayed during the 1984 Olympics. One such scene shows the mass lynching of 21 Chinese workers in Los Angeles in the late 1800s.

Redevelopment Agency lawyer Glenn F. Wasserman, said the city has put about \$33,000 into the mural, and should have indefinite ownership and reproduction rights.

Carrasco was commissioned by the city for a \$6,000 to design and paint the mural to hang in a proposed minipark.

LABELLED

~~CALLED~~ THE NOV 3 ~~NOTE~~ ON PROP 0 ~~AS~~

A ~~REF~~ money grabbing scheme by the

PRO-BUSINESS CONTROL ^{N.C.} CITY COUNCIL. H.B. CALLED

THE NOV 3 NOTE A ^{REF} ~~NOTE~~ NOT ON ~~THE~~ ^{THE}
NEED FOR A TAJ. MA ^{FOR THE N.C.?}
~~NEED~~ ^{FOR} NEW BLOG, BUT A REF ON THE

POLICIES, PROFESSIONALISM, PERFORMANCE, ~~THE~~ CONTROL

^{THE} + ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE N.C.P.D. TOWARD THE

RESIDENTS ^{+ TAXPAYER} OF N.C. A POLICE DEPT. THAT HAS

THE REPUTATION OF BEING THE MOST RACIST,

INEFFIC. & UNPROFESSIONAL IN ALL OF S.D. COUNTY

DOES NOT DESERVE A ^{6 1/2} MILL DOLLAR BUDG.

A POLICE DEPT THAT HAS BEEN ACCUSED BY

S.D. COUNTY D. A. ED MILL (L.A. TIMES) OTHER

POLICE DEPT (L.A. TIMES) SHOULD NOT & WILL BE SUPPORTED

FUNDE
CHANGES

ALCOZON TO THE OFF
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^{IF APPROV}
NOTHING BUT A MONEY GRABBING SCHEME BY
THE PRO BUSINESS CONTROLLED CITY COUNCIL

WHICH
~~THAT~~ WILL TAX THE POOREST OF THE POOR
IN S.D. COUNTY TO THE TUNE OF 20 MILLION

DOLLAR OVER THE NEXT 20 YEARS TO BUILD
A 6.5 MILLION ^{IMPROVED} TAX MAI FOR THE N.C. P.A.

~~A P.A. THAT~~

STATEMENTS BY M.G. WATER & SUPP

OF PROP O ~~WERE~~ THAT THE BORN ISSUE

IS NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF P.S.

DEUC TO THE COMMUNITY ^{WERE} AS ~~A RUNNING JOKE~~

LABELED B. BACA "AS A RUNNING JOKE

IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT ^{THE} N.C. P.A. HAS

REC.
THE INFAMOUS ~~RECORD~~ ^{RECORD} OF C.D. COUNTY OF BEING ACCUSED

IS THE MOST RACIST
IN 1972 & 1973

FORTUNE P 124

THE CCR ^{ALONG WITH N.C. HOME OWNERS, BUS. PERSON} ^{+ SUP.} TODAY AT A P.C. ANNOUNCED

IT UNED ^{THE N.C. TAX} OPPOSITION TO ~~PROP O~~ 6.5 MILLION

POLICE FACILITY BOND PROP ... PROP. O

ACCORDING TO CCR CHAIR H.B.

"PROP O ^{WHICH} ^{TAX TO DEATH} WILL ~~COST~~ THE HOME OWNERS
OF N.C.,

20 MILLION DOLLAR OVER A 20 YEAR PERIOD

IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT N.C. IS THE

POOREST CITY PER CAPITA IN S. D. COUNTY, N.C.

THE COMMITTEE ON CHICAGO RIGHTS
TODAY AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HAS GONE
ON RECORD IN URBINE NATIONAL CITY VOTERS
TO VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION "D" THE 20
MILLION DOLLAR "TAJ MAHI" POLICE FACILITY BOND.

HERMAN BACA CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE
ON CHICAGO RIGHTS LABELED THE OBO. OPPOS OF POLITICAL
PEOP O "A REFE
PERDUM, NOT ~~ON~~ ~~ISSUE~~ ^{QUESTIONS OF} OVER ~~THE~~ CONSTRUCTION ¹²⁶

~~OF~~ A 20 MILLION BUILDING THAT NATIONAL CITY
OBUOUSLY
TAXPAYERS CANNOT AFFORD, BUT OVER THE

(1) ~~OF POLICE PRACTICES UNDER CHIEF OF POLICE~~

~~TERRY HART~~

(1) ADDRESS LONG STANDING GRIEVANCES + ^{AGA} EXPRESS
TOTAL DISSATISFACTION WITH ~~THE~~ ~~THE~~ CURRENT
POLICE

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE
 REFERENDUM ON ^{N.C.} POLICE DEPT. CALLED IN URGING
 A NO VOTE ON PROPOSITION "D"

THE COMMITTEE ON CHICAGO RIGHTS
 TODAY AT ~~THE~~ A PRESS CONFERENCE HAS GONE
 ON RECORD IN URGING NATIONAL CITY VOTERS
 TO VOTE "NO" ON ^{PROPOSITION "D"} THE 20 MILLION DOLLAR
 "TAJ MAHIA" [?] POLICE FACILITY BOND.

ACCORDING TO CCR CHAIRMAN HERMAN
 BACA "PROP D FAR FROM BEING A SIMPLE
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 OBVIOUSLY ^{WILL} CANNOT AFFORD ~~IF GOING~~ TO BE A POLITICAL
 REFERENDUM TO ADDRESS LONG STANDING GRIEVANCES
 TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO CURRENT PRACTICES ~~IN~~ POLICES

IT IS LUDER IF NOT PROTESTS TO ACCEPT
NATIONAL CITY TAXPAYERS

WE SEE
~~THE~~ ~~OUR~~ DENOUNCE PROP "O" AS A MONEY
MONEY GRABING SCHEME BY THE ^{PO}BUSINESS CITY COUNCIL

DEBUNKED AS A "MONEY GRABING" SCHEME

BY ^{MAYOR WATERS} ~~MAYOR WATERS~~ & THE PRO-BUSINESS ^{CONTROLLED} WATER
CITY COUNCIL.

THAT THE AVERAGE ~~INCOME~~ POLICE DEPARTMENT
~~WAGE~~ BUDGET IS 6.2 MILLION DOLLARS (25% OF THE
CITY ANNUAL BUDGET) & THAT ^{THE} AVERAGE ^{part of a} N.C.
POLICE OFFICER (MOST OF WHOM DO NOT LIVE IN N.C.)
_{INC THE C. OF POLICE}
SALARY IS \$30,000 A YEAR WHILE THE AVERAGE
INCOME OF NATIONAL CITY IS \$15,000 IS
TO THE TAXPAYERS OF N.C. & MAKES THE WITHCRAFT
AN INSULT TO THE ECONOMIES OF THIS BOORDOGGLE.

LABELING TII

THE CCR ~~TODAY~~ ^{AT A.P.C.} ANNOUNCED IT'S UNEQUIVO

CAL OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION O, ~~NATIONAL~~ STATE
~~THAT~~ ^{LABELING} THE ^{N.O.V. 3} VOTE ON THE PROPOSED 6.5 MILLION

POLICE FACILITY BOND IS ~~NOT~~ ^{AS} A VOTE ^{NOT} ON THE
~~NEED FOR~~ ~~THE NEED TO~~ ^{OF} CONSTRUCT A

"TAN MAHI" BLOG. FOR THE N.C.P.D., BUT ^{IS GOING} RATHER
^{TO BECOME} A REF. ON THE POLICIES, ^{OF THE} PROFESSIONALISM, PERFORMANCE

CONTROL & ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE N.C.P.D. TOWARD
THE RESIDENTS & TAXPAYERS OF NATIONAL CITY. ^{RATHER THAN A VOTE}

^{MAYOR} THAT ~~THE~~ GEORGE WATERS & THE ENTIRE
CITY COUNCIL WOULD ~~REPLACE~~ ^{PLACE} A 6.5 MILLION

BOND ISSUE ON THE BALLOT, THAT WILL COST N.C.

^{THE POOREST OF THE POOR IN S.D. COUNTY}
HOME OWNERS 20 MILLION DOLLARS AFTER PROPOSING

A GIVE AWAY OF \$750,000 TO A CAR DEALER &

~~AND~~ WIDENING STREETS, INSTALLING CURBS, GUTTERS

& SIDEWALKS AT NO COST TO BUSINESSES WAS

LANDSLIDE VOTE IN RESPONSE TO ECONOMIC ARGUMENTS + THE CCR CALL FOR A POLITICAL REFERENDUM ON CHIEF OF POLICE TERRY HART + THE POLICIES + PRACTICES OF THE N.C.P.D. THE NOV. 3 VOTE IS A CLEAR + DEFINITE STATEMENT FROM THE VOTERS TO MAYOR WATERS + THE CITY COUNCIL THAT IT WANTS FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THE N.C.P.D. THE NOV. 3 VOTE THAT RESULTED IN A "DIASTROPHIC DEFEAT" FOR ^{MAYOR} ~~THE~~ WATERS + THE N.C. POLITICAL SYSTEM ^{CAME ABOUT} IS ~~VERY~~ CLEAR BECAUSE OF THE FOLLOWING:

4)

(1) EFFORTS BY TERRY HART TO INTIMIDATE
 + BLACKMAIL N.C. VOTERS WITH HIS
 AUG. 23, 1987 STATEMENT " THAT HE ALONG
 WITH 35 TO 40 POLICE OFFICERS WOULD
 RESIGN IF VOTERS DID NOT APPROVE THE 6 1/2
 MILLION BOND. OUR ORGANIZATION ACCEPT
 CHIEF HART TO LIVE UP TO HIS WORD
 RESIGN + FOR THE N.C. POLICE OFFICER
 ASSOCIATION TO IMMEDIATELY RELEASE THE
 NAMES OF THE 35 TO 40 OFFICER WHO ALSO
 THREATEN THE VOTERS IN N.C. UNTIL THAT
 TIME ~~THAT~~ THAT THIS HOUSECLEAN IS
 CARRIED OUT THE WILL BE A

(2) ~~THE~~ ~~PATRIOT~~ ^{CITIZEN} BOGUS COMMITTEE

(3)

TOTAL DIASPER -

REFER

LEAVE

TIME THAT MAZE EXERT LEADER

WILL NOT TOLERATE

October 12, 1987

CITY OF NATIONAL CITY
PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.
140 E. 12th Street
National City, CA 92050-3312

ATTN: JIM RUIZ

Dear Jim:

Having received your letter with all the numerous objections you have regarding our attempt to hoist a Junior Olympic Boxing Show for the benefit of the children of National City, whose residence is in National City and not in these other cities that you desire to throw them upon because of your own personal disinterest in boxing, I find it totally unacceptable that the City of National City has appointed such a bias director who would use the many objections stated in your letter of October 8, 1987. As a result of your reluctance to meet with me and work out these issues, I've contacted Mr. Gerry Bolint, Assistant City Manager, to set up a meeting to discuss all your many objections.

I sincerely hope that my opinion of your response to my inquiry is wrong and that these issues can be resolved for the benefit of those boxers that are residents of National City. In response to the issue of city funds to purchase a boxing ring, I've resolved that issue with the commitment of a portable ring for use at all boxing events from other sources.

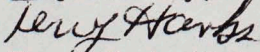
In reference to insurance, the California Border Association which all Junior Olympic Boxers in San Diego and Imperial County are registered under, carry a (1) one million dollar liability coverage. In addition, all participants under the age of 18 years who desire to compete, are required to have their parents and/or legal guardians sign a Hold Harmless Release from any injuries that may occur by their participation in the boxing event and hold our association and any co-sponsors free from any liabilities as a result of their participation.

Page 2 of
Junior Olympics Boxing Show
October 12, 1987

In reference to the boxing being a high risk sport, I am in total disagreement with your statement. Reson being that an amateur boxing show requires all participants to wear protective head gear and a doctor to examine them before the bout and immediately following the bout to determine if any of the participants received any type of possible injuries. Furthermore, statistics compiled throughout the United States will show that amateur boxing is no more of a high risk sport than any other contact sport. If you should desire this information, I will bring it along at our meeting so that you may understand that amateur boxing should not be confused with professional boxing. Not knowing whether you are aware of the support of the community for boxing, I would like to inform you that the new recreation center was named in honor of J. Louis Camacho, former City Councilman and a great supporter of the National City Youth Athletic Boxing Association in which several of our youths met their deaths in a tragic plane crash in Poland pursuing their dreams and representing our country in World Class Amateur Boxing. Not to let our association conduct a one-day a month boxing show at this new recreation center, named in honor of this great man and supporter of amateur boxing, would be a disgrace to this man's honor and could possibly inflame ill feelings among the Mexican American Community of our great city. Having been a resident of National City for some 33 years prior to moving to Spring Valley this year and just recently being appointed J.O. Chairman for our association, you can understand my desire to see that this new recreation center be used for this one-day a month boxing shows in honor of this great City Councilman that gave so much time and effort in support of amateur boxing. Having personally attended several boxing shows in the Los Angeles and Orange County areas, I am sure that once you and the City Council see a show, you will be more supportive of the needs to keep amateur boxing alive in this great city of ours.

You are invited along with any City Councilman to attend a 3-day National Police Athletic League Tournament that will be conducted on November 6,7, and 8th at the City of Commerce Veterans Park in the City of Commerce, California to give you a more perspective point of view.

Respectfully,



Terry Hanks/J.O. Chairman

California Border Association/Junior Olympic Boxing

CC: Mayor George Waters, Vice Mayor Marion Cooper, City Mgr. Tom McCabe, Assistant City Mgr. Gerry Bolint, Councilmen - Fred Pruitt, Jesse Van Derventer, Michael Dalla, Herman Baca - Chicano Rights Committee



City of National City Parks & Recreation Department

140 E. 12th St., National City, CA 92050-3312
Phone: (619) 336-4290

October 8, 1987

Terry Hanks
10050 Bonita Vista
Spring Valley, Calif. 92007

Dear Mr. Hanks,

I am writing you in response to your conversation with Gerry Bolint, Assistant City Manager, regarding a boxing program.

Your inquiry was sent to me for response.

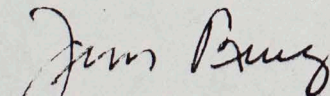
The City does not have funds available for purchasing any boxing equipment in the budget. Locating a site to hold your activity is impossible due to the scheduled activities that we have. Besides regular recreation programs, our outdoor facilities are scheduled for use by Little Leagues, Pony Leagues, Adult Softball Leagues, Girls Softball Leagues, and football leagues.

Insurance would also create possible problems for us. Boxing is a high risk sport and the possibility of injury is very high.

Due to equipment costs, the potential liability problems, and a lack of time and space, we will not be able to co-sponsor a boxing program in National City.

Since you live in the Spring Valley area, you might want to consider contacting Spring Valley Recreation Center, Lemon Grove Recreation Department, or La Mesa Recreation Department.

Sincerely,


Jim Ruiz
Director

cc: G. Bolint



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

October 15, 1987

Mayor George Waters:

We request that you as Mayor, place before the City Council, (10/20/87) for a vote, the following motion which our organization requested action on at the past (10/13/87) council meeting. That the National City Council go on record and past a motion:

- A. that California' State Govenor George Deukmejian order the appropriate State and County agencies to immediately investigate Pacific Steel (PSI).
- B. that P.S.I. be closed due to the "public hazard" that it poses to the health, safety, and general welfare of residents of National City.

We must assume at this point, that the inaction of the City Council was a simple oversight. We will await your response to our request to entertain the above motion and the decision of the City Council.

Thank you in advance,

Herman Baca,
Chairman CCR

VOTE NO ON PROP O

VOTE NO EN LA PROPOSICION "O"

Estimado Votante;

El Alcalde y el Ayuntamiento quieren cargarle a Usted, el contribuyente con \$20,000,000 de impuestos para construir un palacio para el Departamento de Policía de National City.

Antes de votar el 3 de Noviembre, considere lo siguiente:

El promedio de ingresos y salarios en National City es \$15,000 por año!

El salario medio de un oficial de policía de esta ciudad es de \$30,000 al año! Un principiante empieza con un salario de \$26,000 y el Jefe de Policía Terry Hart gana \$66,000 al año y vive en el Cajón!

Usted, el contribuyente pagará \$20,000,000 en el propuesto bono de \$6.5 millones de dólares por los siguientes 30 años!

El Departament de Policía de National City tiene asignado \$6.2 millones de dólares o sea una cuarta parte del presupuesto total anual de \$24,000,000!

El ex-Alcalde Kile Morgan declaró que puede construir un nuevo edificio para el Ayuntamiento sin bono."

El Jefe de Policia Terry Hart ha atentado chantajear a los votantes amenazando con renunciar junto con 30 a 40 oficiales si el bono de \$20,000,000 no es aprobado.

Las consideraciones deben ser dadas por funcionamiento profesional y responsable. El Jefe Hart y el Departamento de Policía de National City no han ganado ese respeto y reconocimiento de los ciudadanos de National City. Hay 25 litigios pendientes contra el Departamento por ciudadanos, por conducta no-profesional. El Departamento ha estado bajo investigación por el FBI, el Departamento de Policía de San Diego y el abogado de Distrito Ed Miller. Este no es un historial de un departamento de Policía del cual los ciudadanos pueden estar orgullosos y considerar un nuevo edificio.

El día 3 de Noviembre, VOTE NO!

Deje a los políticos que le carguen impuestos a su familia por los siguientes 30 años para un edificio que se puede hacer sin emitir un Bono!

Recompense a un Departamento de Policiía que etá atentando chantaje para influir su voto, un Departamento que ha sido incompetente e ineficaz en proporcionarle los servicios de un departamento de policía de primera clase!

Comite Contra PROP O

(Pagado por el Comité pro-derechos Chicanos C.C.R.)

Dear National City Voter;

The Mayor and the City Council wants to tax you, the property owner, \$20,000,000 to construct a Taj Mahal building for the National City Police Department.

Before you vote on Nov. 3 Consider the following:

The average income in National City is \$15,000!

The average income for a National City Police Officer is \$30,000 per year. Rookies start at \$26,000. Police Chief Hart earns \$66,000 per year. A large number of the force do not live in National City, including the Chief.

The Police Department already gets 25% of the monies from the City budget (\$6.2 Million).

Ex-Mayor Kile Morgan vows he can build a facility without incurring a bonded indeptness!

Police Chief Hart attempted to blackmail the city if the new facility isn't built by threatening to quit and take 35-40 officers with him.

Rewards should be given for performance that is professional and responsible. Chief Hart and the National City Police department have not gained that respect and recognition from the citizens of National City. Their are 25 lawsuits pending against the Department by citizens for unprofessional conduct. The Department has been under investigation by the FBI, the San Diego Police Department, and District Attorney Ed Miller. This is not the record of a police department that the citizens should be proud of and reward with a new facility.

On November 3, **VOTE NO ON PROP O** and demand that you first have a first class police department that requires a first class facility.

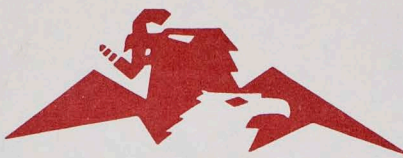
On November 3, **VOTE NO ON PROP O** and don't vote yourself into bankruptcy.

Vote

November 3

TheCommittee Against PROP O

(Paid for by the Committee on Chicano Rights)



CCR

Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

OCTOBER 22, 1987

NATIONAL CITY, CALIFORNIA

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE.....

" REFERENDUM ON NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLED FOR IN URGING A NO VOTE ON PROP 0".

THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS (CCR) TODAY AT A PRESS CONFERENCE STATED IT HAS GONE ON RECORD AND WILL URGE NATIONAL CITY VOTERS TO VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION "0", THE 20 MILLION DOLLAR "TAJ MAHI" POLICE FACILITY BOND.

PROPOSITION "0" STATED HERMAN BACA, PRESIDENT OF CCR " WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BECOME A SIMPLE ECONOMIC VOTE OVER THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 20 MILLION BUILDING THAT NATIONAL CITY TAXPAYERS OBVIOUSLY CANNOT AFFORD, BUT WILL BE A POLITICAL REFERENDUM ON CHIEF OF POLICE HART'S INCOMPETENT LEADERSHIP AND THE RACISM, UNPROFESSIONAL AND INEFFICIENT PRACTICES AND POLICIES THAT HAVE BECOME INHERENT WITHIN THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT".

"IN URGING VOTERS TO OPPOSE PROPOSITION 0", STATED BACA, THE MESSAGE WILL BE CLEAR AND SIMPLE:

- (1) Proposition "0" is a boondoggle that residents and taxpayers of National City cannot afford. (See economic fact sheet)
- (2) The National City Police department should not be rewarded with a 20 million dollar bond or any other tax increase until the following concerns are resolved:
 - (a) Long standing grievances of abuse and brutality
 - (b) Fundamental changes of policy which govern attitudes, race relations, performance, professionalism, complaint procedures, control and accountability of the National City Police Department, is changed.

IN CONCLUDING, THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS STATED THAT REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME OF THE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3, 1987, THAT IT WILL CALL FOR :

- A. THE APPOINTMENT OF A BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE PRACTICES AND POLICIES OF THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT AND TO RECOMMEND ANY NEEDED CHANGES.
- B. THE CREATION OF A CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD WITH SUBPEONA POWERS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (619) 474-8195. CONTACT HERMAN BACA, PRESIDENT, COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS.....

AGENDA OF A REGULAR MEETING
NATIONAL CITY CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CIVIC CENTER
1243 NATIONAL CITY BOULEVARD
REGULAR MEETING - TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 10, 1987, 7:00 P.M.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

IT IS THE INTENTION OF YOUR CITY COUNCIL TO BE RECEPTIVE TO YOUR CONCERNS IN THIS COMMUNITY. YOUR PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WILL ASSURE A RESPONSIBLE AND EFFICIENT CITY OF NATIONAL CITY. WE INVITE YOU TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CITY MANAGER ANY MATTER THAT YOU DESIRE THE CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENCE AND WISH YOU TO KNOW THAT WE APPRECIATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG BY CITY MANAGER,
TOM G. MC CABE

INVOCATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 13,
OCTOBER 20 AND OCTOBER 27, 1987

PROCLAMATION

Proclaiming the Week of November 20-26, 1987 as **FAMILY
WEEK**

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT

Appointment of Vice Mayor

MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

Presentation of Certificate

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Five-Minute time limit)

NOTE: Under State law, items requiring Council action must be brought back on a subsequent Council agenda unless they are of a demonstrated emergency or urgent nature.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing - Grantee Performance Reports, Community Development Block Grant Programs, 1985-1986 and 1986-1987. (Community Development Commission)
2. Public Hearing - Amendment to Title 18 (Zoning) of the Municipal Code regarding parking requirements for shopping centers and commercial uses. (Case File No. A-5-87) (Planning)
3. Public Hearing - Proposed Amendment to Title 18 (Zoning) of the Municipal Code to increase the minimum dwelling unit size in the multi-family extendable (RM-1) zone and for new condominium units in all zones. (Case File No. A-7-87) (Planning)

ADOPTION OF CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

Consent Resolutions: Consent resolutions are resolutions involving matters which are of a routine or noncontroversial nature. All consent resolutions are adopted by approval of a single motion by the City Council. Prior to such approval, any resolution may be removed from the consent portion of the agenda and separately considered, upon request of a Council member, a staff member, or a member of the public.

4. Resolution No. 15,439

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City accepting conveyance of real property for street purposes and naming and dedicating street (Highland Avenue - Jerrico, Inc.). (Engineering)

5. Resolution No. 15,440

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City accepting conveyance of real property for street purposes and naming and dedicating street (17th Street - First Samoan Methodist Church). (Engineering)

6. Resolution No. 15,441

A Resolution directing Notice of Filing of Assessment and Time of Hearing Thereon. (District No. 227) (Engineering)

7. Resolution No. 15,442

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City approving a Grantee Performance Report for Federal Entitlement Community Development Block Grant Years 1985-1987 and authorizing filing thereof. (Community Development Commission)

ADOPTION OF CONSENT RESOLUTIONS (cont.)

8. Resolution No. 15,443

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City awarding contract (District No. 228) (Alley 35 - Civic Center Drive to 14th/Harding to Wilson). (Engineering)

9. Resolution No. 15,444

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an Improvement Agreement between E. M. Stanley, developer of City's Parcel Map No. 1987-3-NC (1426, 1432 and 1434 East 7th Street). (Engineering)

10. Resolution No. 15,445

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City authorizing the City Engineer to execute Right-of-Way/Utility Certificate. (Engineering)

11. Resolution No. 15,446

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City accepting work and authorizing filing of Notice of Completion for traffic signal modification at three locations in National City. (Engineering)

12. Resolution No. 15,447

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City authorizing the Services Division Commander to apply for an Office of Criminal Justice Planning Grant, and to receive and administer the Grant proceeds. (Police)

13. Resolution No. 15,448

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City approving Change Order No. One for landscape beautification - Plaza Boulevard and Highway 805. (Engineering Specification No. 1005) (Engineering)

14. Resolution No. 15,449

A Resolution directing Notice of Filing of Assessment and Time of Hearing Thereon. (District No. 224 - 22nd Street "J" to "K" Avenue) (Engineering)

15. Resolution No. 15,450

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the first amendment of an agreement between San Diego Unified Port District and the City of National City for Police protection services on Port District property in National City. (Police)

ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

16. An Emergency Ordinance amending Section 11.16.010 "Speed Zones Designated" of the Municipal Code. (Engineering)

NEW BUSINESS

17. WARRANT REGISTER NO. 16 (Finance)
Ratification of Demands in the amount of \$217,460.43
Certification of Payroll in the amount of \$358,683.04
18. WARRANT REGISTER NO. 17 (Finance)
Ratification of Demands in the amount of \$137,968.93
19. WARRANT REGISTER NO. 18 (Finance)
Ratification of Demands in the amount of \$212,470.57
Certification of Payroll in the amount of \$348,674.53

CLAIM(S) FOR DAMAGES AGAINST THE CITY

20. Claim for Damages: Ted Bradt, dba Aaron Ambulance Service. (City Clerk)
21. Claim for Damages: Angela M. Sickler. (City Clerk)
22. Claim for Damages: Alice M. Ruehle. (City Clerk)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

23. Request from Mr. Warren Nielsen to address the Council regarding Police Facility and Post Office Parking.

OTHER BUSINESS

24. Notice of Decision - Planning Commission Resolution No. 34-87 approving a Conditional Use Permit application for the expansion of a fast food restaurant located within 300 feet of a residential zone at 3005 Highland Avenue. (Applicant: Tarlos and Associates) (Case File No. CUP-1987-14) (Planning)
25. Notice of Decision - Planning Commission Resolution 35-87 approving a Conditional Use Permit application for outdoor vehicle storage as an incidental use to an existing self-storage facility at 430 West 30th Street. (Applicant: Arthur L. Flaming) (Case File No. CUP-1987-9) (Planning)
26. Notice of Decision - Planning Commission Resolution 36-87 approving a Planned Development Permit application for construction of a 5,824 square foot commercial building and establishment of a repossessed vehicle sales facility at 1800 National City Blvd. (Applicant: John Sidney Womble) (Case File No. PD-8-87) (Planning)
27. Alley 35, District 228, Civic Center Drive to 14th Street, between Harding Avenue and Wilson Avenue, City Clerk's Report of Bid Opening. (City Clerk)
28. Report on the Allocation of Route 252 Mitigation Funds on the Major Street Projects. (Engineering)
29. Request to approve a temporary street closure - 33rd Street from National City Boulevard to approximately 600 feet westerly. (Engineering)
30. Request for Encroachment Removal Agreement at 2005 Highland Avenue (Johnson). (Engineering)
31. South Bay Winterfest and Boat Parade. (City Manager)
32. Report on Centennial Banner Ownership and Related Loan Request by Knights of Pythias. (City Manager)
33. Centennial Ad in Sweetwater High School Yearbook. (City Manager)

OTHER BUSINESS (cont.)

34. Temporary Use Permit - William Montero (applicant) for Jesus Christ, The Son of the Living God requests a TUP for the use of Kimball Park to preach the word of God for six consecutive Sundays, commencing November 15 through December 20, 1987. Waiver of fees is also requested. (Building and Safety)

CITY MANAGER

CITY ATTORNEY

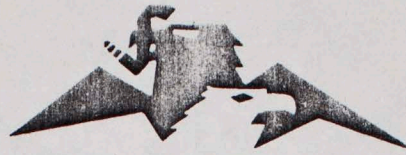
OTHER STAFF

MAYOR

CITY COUNCIL

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting - November 17, 1987 - 4:00 p.m.



CCR

Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

10/29/87

CITY MANAGER
TOM G. McCABE
1243 NATIONAL CITY BLVD.
NATIONAL CITY, CA 92050

MR. McCABE

CONSIDER THIS A FORMAL COMPLAINT. DUE TO INFORMATION RECEIVED BY OUR ORGANIZATION, FROM A NATIONAL CITY VOTER, WE ARE NOW DEMANDING THAT YOUR OFFICE INIATE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

- A) THAT YOU ORDER CHIEF OF POLICE TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE AND DESIST FROM POLITICING UTILIZING TAXPAYERS MONIES AND TIME FOR PASSAGE OF PROPOSITION "O".
- B) THAT YOU ISSUE CHIEF HART A LETTER OF REPRIMAND, AND DOCK HIS PAY FOR THE TIME USED WHILE POLITICING ON TAXPAYERS MONIES.
- C) THAT YOU ISSUE A MEMORANDUM INSTRUCTING ALL CITY EMPLOYEES THAT IT IS PROHITITED TO POLITIC DURING WORKING HOURS.

LET US STATE, THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED US OF CHIEF HART POLITICING DURING WORKING HOURS, IS IN OUR OPINION, ILLEGAL, A VIOLATION OF CITY POLICY, AND AN ACTION THAT JEOPARDIES THE INTEGRITY OF THE ELECTION PROCESS. WE WILL AWAIT YOUR ACTIONS ON THIS MATTER AND WILL WAIT FOR SOLUTIONS TO THE ISSUE OF CITY EMPLOYEE (S) POLITICING WHILE WORKING AND UTILIZING TAXPAYERS MONIES AND TIME. REST ASSURE THAT IF ACTION IS NOT FOURTH COMING THAT OUR ORGANIZATION WILL PURSUE THIS MATTER WITH THE FAIR POLITICAL PRATICE COMMISSION AND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE AGENCIES.

AWAITING YOUR REPLY,

Herman Baca
HERMAN BACA, PRESIDENT

C.C. MAYOR GEORGE WATERS
FAIR POLITICAL COMMISSION
NEWS MEDIA

THE CCR ALONG WITH N.C. HOME OWNERS, BUSINESS PERSONS, & SUPPORTERS TODAY ANNOUNCED ¹⁷⁵
UNEQUIVOCALLY OPPOSITION TO THE NOV. 3, N.C. 6.5 MILLION DOLLAR POLICE FACILITY
BOND...PROPOSITION O.

PROPOSITION O ACCORDING TO ~~THE PROPOSITION~~ CCR CHAIR H.B. WAS LABELED AS A MONEY GRABBING
SCHEME BY THE PRO-BUSINESS CONTROLLED CITY COUNCIL WHICH IF APPROVED WILL TAX N.C.
HOME OWNERS, THE POOREST OF THE POOR IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY TO THE TUNE OF 20 MILLION
DOLLARS OVER THE NEXT 20 YEARS IN ORDER TO CONSTRUCT THE @X \$20,000,000 UNDESERVED
"TAJ MAHAL" FOR THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPT." A POLICE DEPT. THAT ACCORDING TO
BACA HAS THE DESERVING REPUTATION OF BEING THE MOST RACIST, INCOMPETENT AND UNPROFESSIONAL
POLICE DEPT. BY THE COMMUNITY & OF HAVING BEEN ACCUSED IN THE PAST BY OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICIALS AS ACTING ILLEGALLY & BRUTALITY. EXAMPLES:

- A) DISTRICT ATTORNEY ED MILLER (LA TIMES 4/9/87) "HISTORICALLY, THERE HAVE BEEN AN
INCREDIBLE NUMBER OF CITIZENS COMPLAINTS THAT HAVE BEEN FILED AGAINST THAT DEPT."
- B) LA TIMES 4/9/87)

THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS (CCR) TODAY AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCED ITS OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION O, THE NOVEMBER 3rd PROPOSED 6.5 MILLION DOLLAR POLICE FACILITY BOND IN NATIONAL CITY. LABELING THE PROPOSED 6.5 MILLION DOLLAR BOND WHICH IF APPROVED WILL ULTIMATELY COST NATIONAL CITY HOME OWNERS 20 MILLION DOLLARS AS BEING

"MONEY GRABBING SCHEME" ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ BY MAYOR GEORGE WATERS & THE PRO-BUSINESS CITY COUNCIL. ACCORDING TO CCR CHAIR HERMAN BACA "THE ECONOMIC ARGUMENT OF BESIDES TAXING TO DEATH WE WILL NOT ALLOW THE POOREST OF THE POOR IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY THE NOVEMBER 3rd VOTE TO BE A SIMPLE YES OR NO VOTE OF BUILDING A 20 MILLION TAJ MAHI BUILDING FOR THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPT., BUT THE VOTE WILL BE TURNED INTO A REFERENDUM TO EXPRESS DISATISFACTION OF CURRENT POLICE PRATICES UNDER CHIEF OF POLICE TERRY HART & TO SEEK FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES OF POLICIES GOVERNING PERFORMANANCE, PROFESSIONALISM, ATTITUDE, COMPLAINTS, CONTROL & THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPT." THAT THERE IS NO LITTLE OR NO CONTROL OF THE POLICE DEPT. BY THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION WAS MANISFACTED BY PUBLIC DELARECATION MADE BY CHIEF OF POLICE TERRY HART ON AUGUST 23, 1987 WHEN HE ATTEMPTED TO PUT A GUN AT THE HEAD OF NATIONAL CITY VOTERS WHEN HE DECLARED THAT HE & 40 NATIONAL CITY OFFICERS WOULD RESIGN IF NATIONAL CITY VOTERS DID NOT APPROVE THE 6.5 MILLION DOLLAR BOND". WE AS RESIDENTS TAXPAYERS, & VOTERS DEMAND THAT MAYOR GEORGE WATERS FORCE CHIEF OF POLICE HART & CAPT. TOM DEESE HEAD OF THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION TO RELEASE THE NAMES OF THE 40 OFFICERS THAT HAVE THREATEN THEOSE WHO PAY THERE SALARIES BEFORE ELECTION DAY.

show
of A

today

JNXS

- TO VOTE 07
- ~~OPPOSITE~~
- A. EXPRESS LONG STANDING DISSATISFACTORY OF PAST CURRENT + DAY TO DAY POLICE PRATICES UNDER CHIEF OF POLICE TERRY HART
- B. TO SEEK FUND

ECONOMIC FACT SHEET

A.) AVERAGE INCOME IN NATIONAL CITY IS \$15,000.00 A YEAR.

B.) AVERAGE NATIONAL CITY POLICE OFFICER SALARY IS \$30,000,
VETERAN POLICE OFFICER EARNS \$32,000.AND ROOKIE POLICE
OFFICER START AT \$26,000.00

(A large number of Police Officers reside outside the City of
National City, including Chief Terry Hart)

C.) NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET IS 6.2 MILLION DOLLARS OR
1/4 OF THE CITY'S 24 MILLION ANNUAL BUDGET.

D.) NATIONAL CITY AS AN INCORPORATED CITY IS THE POOREST AND
HAS THE WORST:

1. Housing
2. Per Capita Income
3. Education
4. Employment
5. Police/Community Relations



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

February 9, 1983

Kile Morgan, Mayor
1243 National City Blvd.
National City, Ca. 92050

Dear Mayor:

Since the National City City Council meeting of February 1, 1983, when the grievances of the Committee on Chicano Rights regarding the National City Police Department's unlawful enforcement of Federal Immigration Law was brought to your attention, Police Chief Terry Hart has made a number of public statements that have been reported in the local press. These statements reveal Mr. Hart's nonchalant attitude towards the civil and constitutional rights of Mexicans and Chicanos in National City. We are therefore demanding that you instruct the City Manager, Tom McCabe, to address the following questions in filing his report on the policies and practices of the police department:

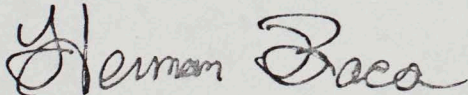
- 1) Why are no formal written reports or records kept when police officers detain, handcuff, transport and hold "suspected" undocumented aliens?
(According to Lt. Nosal not even the names of the individuals apprehended are recorded, nor the names of the Border Patrol officers who pick-up these individuals at the Police Headquarters in National City)
- 2) Since neither formal records nor statistics are kept on such incidents on what does Police Chief Hart base his statements that only a "few" such incidents occur each year?
- 3) If no formal record is maintained then on what information does the Police Chief base his statements that his subordinates have reasonable cause to suspect apprehended aliens of breaking a local statute or law?
- 4) In the incident of January 10, 1983 what laws were the individuals stopped and detained by Officer DeLucia suspected of breaking? What was the charge?
- 5) Does Officer DeLucia speak spanish fluently?
- 6) Under what other circumstances are individuals held, handcuffed,

transported and kept at Police Headquarters without a formal record of arrest being filled out?

- 7) According to Lt. Nosal, it would be possible to research the files at Police Headquarters to determine how many such incidents occur. How many such incidents have occurred in 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, and 1983?
- 8) Does the City of National City have any means of determining how many times the Border Patrol releases individuals turned over to them by the National City Police Department because in fact those individuals have violated no Federal Immigration Laws? In other words how many innocent individuals are essentially kidnapped by the National City Police because of a police officer's instincts?
- 9) Police Chief Hart has stated publicly that "Officers understand that they have to have probable cause to act." In the absence of a written policy on this matter and in the absence of training in the application of Federal Immigration Laws who is providing direction and of what sort are police officers doing whatever they feel like at the moment?
- 10) When the City Council orders the Police Department to cease and desist as the Committee on Chicano Rights has demanded how will the policy be implemented and how will the Police Department be held accountable?
Will the department begin recording detailed information on any incident involving a National City Police Officer and suspected violator of Federal Immigration Law.

Our deepest concern is that the National City Police Department is operating outside of the administrative and legal structure of law enforcement and treating Mexicans and Chicanos by taking them outside of the structure where no one can be held accountable for their actions.

Sincerely,



Herman Baca,
Chairperson, CCR

GENERAL ORDER:

NO. 83-1

DATE: March 8, 1983

SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL IMMIGRATION LAWS
DETENTION OF UNDOCUMENTED PERSONS

While the primary responsibility for the enforcement of federal immigration laws is with the U.S. Immigration Services and the U.S. Border Patrol, state and local officers can lawfully detain persons they suspect of immigration violations under certain circumstances.

The policy of this department regarding the detention of suspected undocumented persons is as follows:

1. Officers will not stop or detain persons solely on the suspicion such persons may be undocumented persons.
2. Officers may detain, and later release to the U.S. Border Patrol, persons they suspect of being in violation of immigration laws when probable cause of such violation was lawfully discovered during the course of investigating other suspected criminal violations.

The law in this situation is similar to those controlling search and seizure which, in general, hold that if an officer discovers Item B (evidence of a crime) while lawfully searching for Item A (also evidence of a crime) he does not have to shut his eyes to the discovery of Item B which may be evidence of a crime that he was totally unaware of when he started his lawful search for Item A. The key in both cases--detaining a suspected undocumented person and seizing Item B--rests upon the lawfulness of the original contact, detention or search!

If sufficient probable cause exists to detain a person for suspected violation of laws independent of immigration laws and in the course of such suspected violations the officer discovers that the only real violation is that the person is an undocumented alien, the continued detention, and later release to the proper federal agent, is lawful. The officer must be able to demonstrate sufficient probable cause for the initial contact, which cannot be that the officer suspected a subject was an undocumented person.

DISPOSITION OF UNDOCUMENTED PERSONS

OTHER VIOLATIONS:

If the person has committed other criminal acts for which we will seek prosecution, such persons will be placed in county jail or released to the U.S. Border Patrol at the discretion of the watch commander based upon the offense charged.

NO OTHER VIOLATIONS:

If no other violations have been committed or will be prosecuted, the undocumented persons will be released to the U.S. Border Patrol at the place of contact or from the National City Police Department.

Once it is determined that suspected undocumented persons will be released to the Border Patrol, the Border Patrol will be notified and their ETA (estimated time of arrival) determined. If it is not practical to detain the undocumented persons in the field they will be transported to the police department pending arrival of the Border Patrol.

Factors to be used in determining the practicality of detaining undocumented persons in the field include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Number of persons and the ability of the officer to safely control them.
2. Officer's safety.
3. Ability of the officer to complete his original task (e.g. the investigation of a serious crime, crowd control, traffic control).

USE OF HANDCUFFS or OTHER RESTRAINTS:

The use of handcuffs is based upon the concept of officer protection. It is lawful to handcuff (or use other restraints) persons suspected of being undocumented persons. The decision to handcuff is left to the discretion of the officer and should be consistent with existing policy.

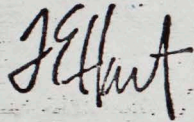
RELEASE TO THE BORDER PATROL:

If additional criminal charges are to be filed against the suspected undocumented person, appropriate crime and/or arrest reports will be completed.

If no additional charges are to be filed, the officer shall complete a radio dispatch card which will include the following:

1. Undocumented person's name, age, DOB and place of birth.
2. Name of Border Patrol agent assuming custody of the undocumented person.
3. National City Police Department officer's name.

A central file of such detentions and releases will be maintained in the Records Division.



TERRY HART
Chief of Police

TH:er

Pro-bond circulars are misleading, former mayor says

STAFF NEWS
1-11/87

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

A flyer encouraging National City voters to support a \$6.5 million bond issue in November has raised the fighting spirit of former Mayor Kyle Morgan.

The flyers were sent to 10,400 registered voters in the city by the Citizens for Better Safety, a committee favoring the \$6.5 million bond to build a new police station, according to Councilman Mike Dalla.

All City Councilman support the bond, but Morgan has said the station could be built without taxpayer money. He and his supporters have campaigned against bond by talking to as many

citizens as possible.

The committee has 27 members and a \$5,000 budget, \$2,000 of which went to make the flyers, Dalla said. The postage for each handout averaged 10 cents, he said.

Morgan said he did not receive a mailer, and rhetorically asked, "How many more did not get it?"

"You are not going to change Kyle Morgan's mind on the bond issue. Why waste 20 cents mailing one to him?" Van Deventer said. "He would do the same thing if he were in our position."

Dalla said some of the committee members had not been sent a

Please see Bond: A-8

Bond

Continued from A-1

flyer by Thursday, but added "nobody was excluded or pulled from the mailing," which was sent out on Monday.

Morgan obtained a mailer from a friend, and said it was inaccurate on a few points. "This thing is misleading and they (the committee) are trying to fool the people. It's highly sneaky to do it this way. Give us the facts and let the voters decide."

Morgan disagreed with a point in the flyer which says the existing police facility has no parking, but said people using the station have parking available in the Waterson College lot on 12th Street. "Most of those parking spaces are left for the city, with some left for the college," he said.

Dalla could not give an exact number of spaces delegated to the police, but said the college fills up most of them. "Go there most any day of the week and you will have difficulty finding a place. I would not call that adequate

parking for the police station," he said.

Van Deventer said three or four public parking spaces are in the station lot across the street on A Avenue, but are filled most of the time.

Morgan also noted the use of a 15,000 square foot figure in the information used to compare the size of the station with others in the county, which does not include the 4,000 feet of rented space for detective offices.

Committee chairman Louis Natividad said the 15,000 figure was put in to emphasize the separate locations of the two buildings, noting the 4,000

square foot figure was included elsewhere in the flyer.

"The point we are making is that the 19,000 square feet are not together in one building," he said. Other information in the flyer shows the increase in crime, arrests and numbers of officers since the current station was proposed in 1963.

Natividad said he wants a station to fit the city's growing needs, saying its planning has always been done with a small-town attitude.

Morgan said voters have always been informed about the issues and voted well in the past. "There's no use to downgrade

the people of National City. They know the difference between what is a bond and what's not."

Van Deventer said the mailer was informative and did not contain any unclear language. "We wanted to inform the people that the proposition is on the ballot and everything they will be voting on."

The response to a mail-back card asking for support of the bond has been positive so far, Dalla said. About 100 cards have been returned this week from residents living in both single-family home and apartment complexes.

Take a tour of the city police dept.

I hope you publish this letter as *The Star-News* for one reason or another has not given our wonderful police officers of National City enough publicity concerning the need for a better police department building.

The people of National City have to be made aware of the horrendous working conditions that the police face and have to work in daily. The fact that all

of our surrounding communities have normal or better facilities only serves to demoralize the officers more each day. This has gotten to the point that some of the officers are being lured elsewhere.

The police are now desperate enough to offer any disbelieving citizen a tour of their tiny basement and front desk where criminals and victims have to share the same crowded space. They will also show any disbelievers the boxes on the floor where the records are kept.

Those taking the tour will get

a view of the officers waiting their turn to use a desk to complete reports filed with the department. Any questions will be answered that need be in order to convince the people to vote yes on proposition O on Nov. 3.

If you are seriously concerned and want a tour of the station, please call 477-5049 in the daytime and after five call 267-3566. Please do not call the station. The tour will be arranged by calling the above mentioned numbers.

10/8/87

S. NEWS

AMELIA FIERRO
National City

Residents would relocate if new city hall were built

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Relocating property owners who would be affected by either side of the bond issue controversy will probably not be difficult.

A survey of residents in the area of 16th and D streets by *The Star-News* revealed most people were willing to cooperate with the city by accepting a fair market value for their property in order to have a new municipal civic center built on their block.

Under a plan from former Mayor Kile Morgan, homes on the block would be torn down to make room for the facility. Police operations could then be consolidated into existing space at the civic center.

Morgan said the new police station would cost \$4 million to build and would be paid for through federal, state and private funds. Mayor George Waters claims Morgan's project would cost \$20 million.

Waters favors a \$6.5 million bond issue to build a new police station on the corner of 16th and National City Boulevard and renovate the civic center into additional office space. His plan would require acquisition of a car dealership.

Last November, a similar \$6.5 million bond measure failed to capture the needed two-thirds vote.

The homes in the block proposed for

Morgan's project are a mixture of rentals and privately owned homes, but is zoned for general commercial. Most of the homeowners rent another house on the block. There are 12 buildings in the block, including a duplex.

"Let them have it. I'd like to move anyway," said Thelma Gordon of 1519 Avenue, adding she would have no objections toward selling her property. She said she would not support a bond issue for a new police station because it would cost too much to the taxpayer.

Gordon estimated the value of her two properties, based on past property valuations, to be about \$130,000. Her son, Darrel, was an unsuccessful candidate for city council last November.

Other homeowners were not as eager to sell, but said they would consider a friendly buyout if the issue reaches that point.

Ann and Jim Graham have lived in their house on the corner of 15th and E for 20 years and have reared five children there. Ann Graham favors a new police station instead of a new city hall on the block, but would move if forced to.

"I would miss this place, but I guess you've got to sometimes move in the face of progress. It's up to the majority to say and we should go along with it. Any money spent for the police is money well spent," she said. "They are in need of new station. They have outgrown the old one and need a larger facility."

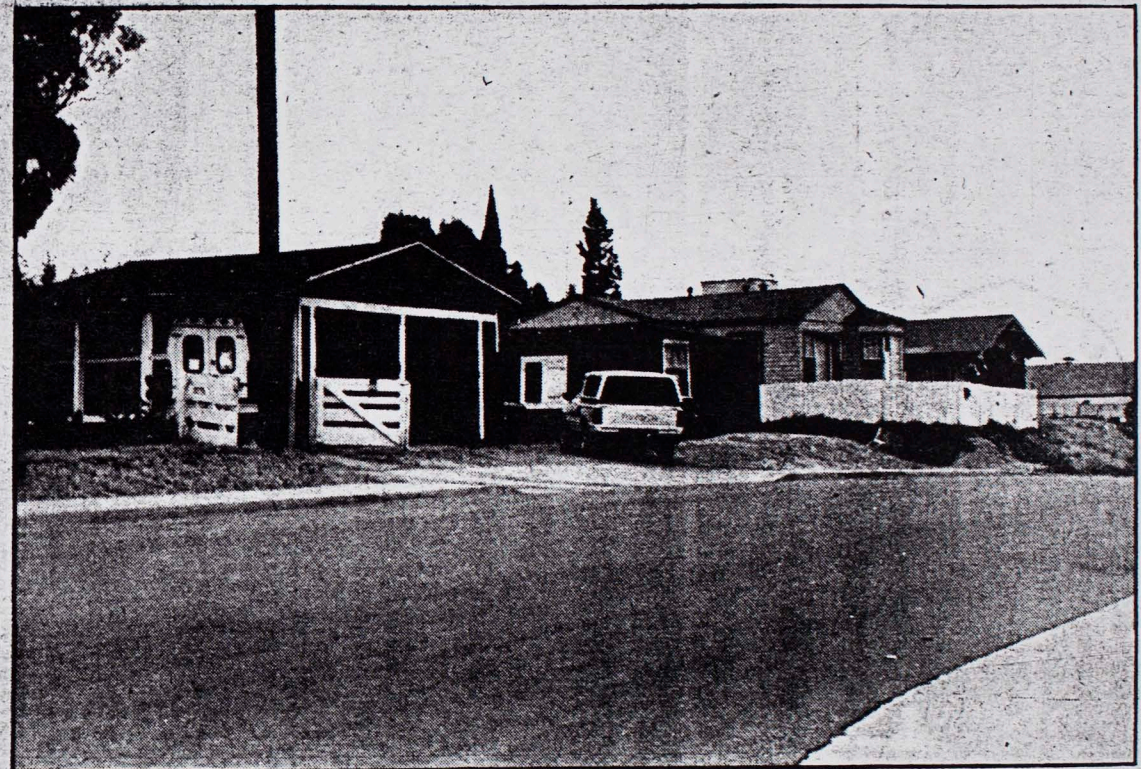


Photo by George McCrory

Residents along 15th Street would have to be relocated if city councilmembers decided to follow the recommendation of former Mayor Kile Morgan and build a new city hall. A majority of the landowners said they like where they are at, but would not fight the city.

Ray Cox, who lives at 415 E. 16th, said he would "probably go with the rest of the property owners," but would hate to move. He bought his house in 1956 and rents another next door. He likes living there, but said there is too much traffic and noise from the fire station across the street.

Cox's tenant, Lottie McBain said the city

could go ahead with the new city hall on the block. "I'd have to move, but that's OK," she said.

Another renter in the block also said they had no objections to Morgan's plan. "I think a new city hall should go here and the police should use the old station," said David Gartner of 408 E. 15th St.

Cost of jail bond 77 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation

STOENEUS
9/31/77

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Formal arguments both for and against a \$6.5 million bond proposition to finance a new city police department were released last week by National City Clerk Ione Campbell.

Campbell also issued an impartial analysis on "Proposition O" from City Attorney George Eiser and an estimated cost of the bond to taxpayers if it is approved.

Voters will decide in November if they want a \$6.5 million bond issue added on property taxes to help finance a new \$8.83 million police station. A similar measure last November did not get the required two-thirds vote.

In his comments on the arguments, Mayor George Waters said that Police Chief Terry Hart apologized for comments made at a recent Chamber of Commerce membership breakfast. Hart told the Chamber he would consider leaving the department and that 35 to 40 officers would leave if the bond was not accepted.

"He said he got overanxious where interviews were taking place in a public forum," Waters said. Hart could not be reached Tuesday for comment.

"I gave this some real thought when the council asked me to head up the argument for the bond," Waters said, adding he was concerned about the need to put the department in one building and to keep officers from moving to other agencies.

Former mayor Kile Morgan is heading opposition for the bond, claiming a new city hall should be built and the police department consolidated in the present Civic Center. He was opposed to the bond last year, also.

"It is against all the principals I have to put a bond on the people of the city," he said. "I can build a Civic Center without a bond."

"We should have been taking some action on this years ago," Waters said. "I'm going to work hard to convince people of the need for the new police station. I will call attention to the people that federal funding has been cut off. It's not like the old days when grants were available on a routine basis.

"I'm not interested in an all out battle with anyone in opposition to the bond. We should stick to the needs of the citizens," Waters said.

He and the City Council formulated the argument favoring the proposition, while Morgan and four other local citizens signed the argument against. They include: Doris McKinney, former Civil Service commissioner; retired barber Kenneth Attaway; former council candidate Daryl Gorham and long-time resident Donna DeMoss.

The best estimate of the proposed tax rate levied on all property owners in the city to fund the bond is \$.07766 per \$100 valuation, starting in the 1988-89

Please see Pro-Con: A-8

Police Incidents	1963	1986	Percent Increase
Vehicle Accidents	838	1,523	82
Injury Accidents	173	645	273
Hit and Run Accidents	114	515	352
Crimes Reported	2,663	10,976	312
Arrests Made	1,547	5,585	261
Calls for Police Service	21,676	55,000+	154

Pro-Con

Continued from A-1

fiscal year. For example, a \$100,000 house would be assessed \$77.66 per year. According to City Attorney George Eiser, the actual amount of the bonds could be less than \$6.5 million, depending on the cost of the project.

He wrote that the proposition would authorize some increase in property taxes, with the actual amount depending on the size, term and the interest rate of the bonds, and the actual cost of the project.

He instructed people to vote "yes" or "no" on the proposition on the basis of authorizing the city to build the station and increase property taxes.

The council's argument in favor of the proposition follows:

"There is one primary reason to build a new police building—to improve the quality of police service delivered to this community! The present police station is located in the basement of city hall and was designed in 1963 when the police department had about 33 employees.

"The police department now has three times that number of employees and a significantly higher level of activity. Other than the Coronado police building, the National City police station is the oldest and smallest police facility in this county.

"The need for a larger, more modern, better equipped building

can be seen by comparing the number of police incidents in the years 1963 and 1986: (see chart). During the last three years the 'employee turnover rate,' the number of employees who leave the National City Police Department, has been almost twice that of most local agencies. Valuable years of experience are lost every time a police officer leaves, experience that may spell the difference in a life-threatening situation. Tax dollars are also spent to recruit and train their replacements.

"The overcrowded and ill-equipped conditions of the existing police station are definite factors contributing to this turnover rate. A larger, modern police station will allow the city to recruit and retain more qualified personnel which will result in better police services of all types to the people of this community.

"Every person who comes to National City to live, work, shop or recreate deserves improved police service. A new, better equipped police building is the cornerstone of that improvement."

Morgan's argument against the proposition:

"Vote no on Proposition O, a \$6.5 million bond issue, which when paid off with interest, will cost our home owners around \$20 million. More space is needed by our police. This should be built

by the city, not our taxpayers. The average income in National City is \$15,000 a year.

"Our council pays some of its top employees approximately \$100,000 a year and has widened a street and installed curbs, gutters and sidewalks at no cost to business. The city collected some \$10 million in sales taxes this year. After adopting a \$24 million budget, the council was left a \$6 million reserve. The city has other resources: federal, state and county funds.

"Not one bond issue was proposed or passed in National City in the past 22 years. During this time we built two senior towers with 300 units, plus a senior recreation center. We spent \$20 million on streets and drainage, plus \$5 million for sewers, \$3 million on parks, \$1 million for a gymnasium, \$1 million on a golf course and built three community buildings.

"We developed: South Bay Plaza, Plaza Bonita, the Mile of Cars and Heritage Square. The point is we did this, and more, with out trying to place a bond on your home to pay off.

"Vote no on this National City Proposition O bond. Build the police facility with city funds. The council is considering the turnkey plan which insures the builder and consultant will get his money without having to go to bid for the job.

"This builder and consultant will receive a percentage of the cost of the project, approximately \$1 million. The site is not yet chosen. Vote no on this blank check deal!"

Controversial bond issue ignites debate

Morgan, Waters square-off over best plan for city

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

A referendum seeking voter support for a \$6.5 million bond issue has turned into a political showdown between former National City Mayor Kile Morgan and current Mayor George Waters.

What otherwise should have been a mundane yes or no decision at the polls this November has grown into major issue with the future of the city police department on line.

Ironically, the issue is not what needs to be done — provide additional space for city offices and consolidate the police department into one, larger facility — but how to accomplish this goal.

Morgan, who led opposition to the bond while mayor last year, vowed to continue his fight. He wants council members to build a new city hall and remodel the ex-

isting building for police.

"I can build a city hall without a bond issue," Morgan said, adding the project could be financed through federal, state and private sources. "I would remodel the old city hall into an absolutely first class station. All 15 departments would have all the room they need."

Morgan said he has "helped build most every important project in the city without the use of bonds. I think we could build a new city hall for not one penny over what they're proposing now. How many times have I been wrong on these things? I have been a builder estimating costs all my life."

"When Kile was mayor there were several ways of getting federal and other money. That kind of money isn't available now," Waters said. "The easiest

Please see Mayors: A-9

4/23/87

Mayors

Continued from A-1

way to build the station without cutting other projects is to use the bond route."

City councilman Jess Van Deventer agreed that federal money is not as available now as it was during Morgan's administration. Therefore, a "turnkey" developer was chosen to speed along the process.

Starboard Development of San Diego has proposed an \$8.83 million, 42,000-square-foot building for the police department. Although an exact location has not been determined for the proposed police department, property at the corner of 16th and National City Boulevard is thought to be the first choice.

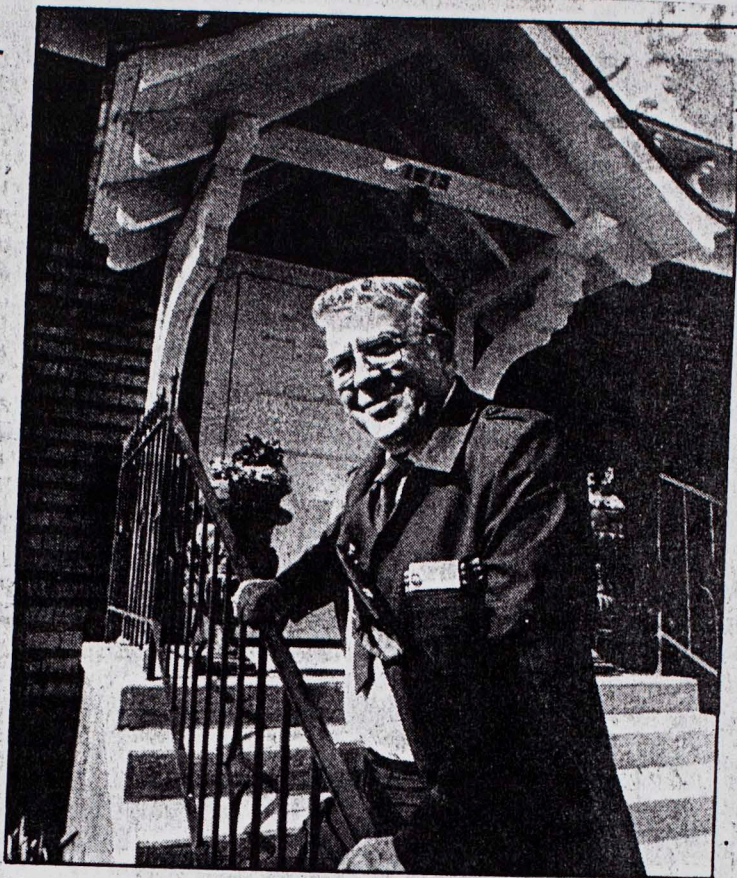
Officials from Starboard said the landowner, a local car dealer, was willing to negotiate with the city and that tenant relocations would be much simpler compared to alternative sites.

A major disadvantage to the property, situated at the west end of Kimball Park, is its location in a 100-year flood plain. Although the cost to overcome the flooding danger would be within budget, a higher ground location might not resolve access to the station during a flood.

Starboard studies said streets remaining at the lower elevation would be subject to flooding.

The city has already contributed \$100,000 to build the station and committed \$450,000 over the next few years for fixtures and furnishings. Revenue sharing funds and tax allocation bond proceeds would be used to pay the difference between the proposed bond money and actual construction costs.

The controversy thickened Wednesday morning when National City Police Chief Terry



Mayor George Waters

"I don't think he's being fair to this administration. We're back to the old stuff, the arguing and fighting. I think the public is tired of it. He should let this administration do what they want."

— Mayor George Waters

Hart threatened to resign if voters did not approve money for a new station. He said the situation is so bad about half his department would follow in the ensuing months. Currently the police department operates from the civic center basement and rents office space on 12th Avenue for the detective bureau. (See lead story.)

Morgan said moving the police equipment into a new building

would be an expensive proposition. He said partitions in the Civic Center could easily be altered to accommodate police officers.

Morgan said the \$20 million estimate for his new city hall was inaccurate. He said a 40,000-square-foot building could be constructed for \$4 million — or about one-half the cost for a police station. And, Morgan is opposed to the turnkey plan — where a developer receives a certain percentage of the project cost.

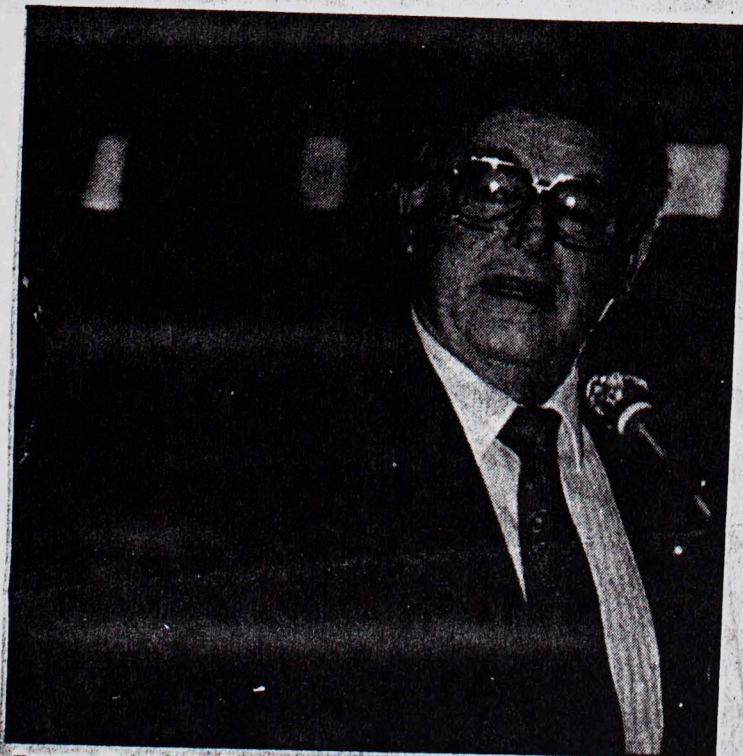
While mayor, Morgan said he was extremely hard-nosed. He had other feelings about the current administration. "You've got these people who really don't know what they are doing up there. They don't have plans going from one year, to five years, to ten years down the line."

"I don't think he's being fair to this administration," Waters said. "We're back to the old stuff, the arguing and fighting. I think the public is tired of it. He should let this administration do what they want."

"He left us with many lawsuits and a broken city council," Van Deventer commented. "We've been elected to save the people money and we're trying to give them a good quality station."

"I personally think the bond will pass this time. It came so close to passing last time with not as much work put into it. This is an off year, and we will let our feelings show."

Van Deventer expressed concern that building a new city hall would create a major land acquisition problem. "We would be tied up in legal battles for years. Do we have that kind of time to wait for a new police station?"



Former Mayor Kile Morgan

"You've got these people who really don't know what they are doing up there. They don't have plans going from one year, to five years, to ten years down the line."

— Former Mayor Kile Morgan

COMMUNITY/POLICE RELATIONS

- 1.) NATIONAL CITY HAS HAD A REPUTATION FOR BEING A KICK-ASS, TAKE NAMES TYPE OF POLICE DEPARTMENT. (See Chief Terry Hart, L.A. Times-4/9/87)
- 2.) " HISTORICALLY, THERE HAVE BEEN AN INCREDIBLE NUMBER OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS FILED AGAINST THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT". " IN NUMEROUS MEETINGS THAT I"VE HAD WITH TERRY, I"VE SUGGESTED THAT HE OUGHT TO ESTABLISH A POLICY THAT PROTECTS PEOPLE AGAINST UNREASONABLE ABUSE FROM POLICE OFFICERS". (District Attorney Edwin Miller, L.A. Times 4/9/87)
- 3.) 25 LAWSUITS BY INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN FILED AGAINST CHIEF TERRY HART AND VARIOUS OFFICERS SINCE 1982. (L.A. TIMES 4/9/87)
- 4.) SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT FILED AN INTERNAL INVESTIGATION CONCLUDING THAT NATIONAL CITY POLICE USED EXCESSIVE FORCE. (L.A. Times- 4/9/87)
5. F.B.I. HAS INVESTIGATED THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE 3RD TIME RECENTLY. (L.A. Times 4/9/87)
- 6.) NATIONAL CITY POLICE ENFORCE FEDERAL IMMIGRATION LAWS. CHIEF TERRY HART RECALLS DAYS WHEN SOUTHBAY POLICE ROUTINELY WENT ALIEN HUNTING AND TURNED OVER ILLEGALS TO THE U.S. BORDER PATROL. FOR THEIR TROUBLE COPS GOT A BOUNTY OF 3 OR 4 BOXES OF PRACTICE AMMUNITION. (Reader Magazine-3/3/83)
- 7.) NATIONAL CITY HAS HIGHEST CRIME RATE PER CAPITA IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY, ACCORDING TO SANDAG. (L.A. Times 4/9/87)

Police chief, officers threaten to resign if voters don't approve bonds for station

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

National City Police Chief Terry Hart announced Wednesday that he would leave the department and 35 to 40 officers would resign if a new police station is not built.

The announcement came during a Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting at Jimmy's Restaurant on Plaza Boulevard. Hart, addressing business people attending the meeting, attempted to convince them of

the merits of a new \$8.83 million police headquarters for the community.

In November, voters will decide if they are willing to add a \$6.3 million bond issue to be their tax rolls to partially finance the station. A similar measure on last November's ballot failed to get a required two-thirds vote.

"If in fact this was not accepted, I would look for another job. I do not want to spend my life working in a negative environment," he said. "If the police facility is not accomplished, 35 to 40 officers will leave.

There is no way in hell this city can absorb that loss."

Hart said he has officers on waiting lists ready to leave. The loss would amount to one-half of the city's patrol officers and ranking officers. The department has 53 patrol officers and 19 lieutenants, captains and sergeants.

Acting Capt. Tom Deese, head of the National City Police Officer's Association, said

Please see Chief: A-9

8/23/87

Chief

Continued from A-1

Hart's estimate is fairly accurate, but did not expect the men to stage a mass walkout. He said they would leave over a period of months.

"It's not going to happen overnight," Deese said. "These men are acting independently, completely on their own, and are taking actions should their future not be here. It's no secret...without a building there is no future."

Deese said the police department is not threatening anyone, just explaining the facts. "It's going to happen. People of this town deserve better police service."

Lt. Bill Osburn said the average National City officer makes about \$30,000 a year — ranging from \$26,000 for a rookie to \$32,600 for a four-year veteran. If 40 officers left, the impact in salary loss to the city payroll would be \$1.2 million.

"My opinion is that our officers draw a good salary," Mayor George Waters said Thursday. "I don't believe he (Hart) should make statements to hold the public hostage...To me, he's not using much common sense. I think he should knock it off."

Hart said the handwriting is on the wall. Two sergeants just resigned — although not necessarily as a result of the bond issue — and approximately 20 percent of the department's officers leave each year. New officers fill the open positions, but recruits are not fully productive until they undergo 10 months of training and testing, he said.

Most officers leave the force because better paying jobs await them, Hart said, adding other agencies recognize the experience they gain in National City. Hart said the district attorney's investigative office hires a many National City officers.

"Our officers get seven to 10 years worth of experience in five years," he said. "Our patrol officers make decisions made by sergeants and investigators and get experience very quickly. We don't want to continue to lose people."

"The only reason to build a new station is that it would significantly improve the police service in the community," Hart said, adding National City has one of the oldest and smallest stations in the county.

He produced records showing that arrests and patrol stops have increased significantly since 1963, when the Civic Center was first planned.

The police headquarters were built in 1966 and are in the basement of the Civic Center on National City Boulevard. Detective offices are located in rented space on 12th Street.

The station has no public restrooms and limited conference and interview space, Hart said.

"Who wants to come in the lobby with a significant or private problem in front of six other citizens," he said, referring to a small lobby in the station.

Hart also explained that there are no partitions between detectives, and that conversations between police and subjects can get confusing and are

"It's not going to happen overnight. These men are acting independently, completely on their own, and are taking actions should their future not be here. It's no secret...without a building there is no future."

— Acting Capt. Tom Deese

not private. Victims and witnesses would not be as candid, providing less information for detectives to solve and prosecute crimes.

"You would be affected by other conversations," he said. "You cannot carry on a private, personal conversation regarding a crime in this open arena. The police facility we now have is too small for what we now do," Hart said, adding that the basement station has already been remodeled eight times.

"Seven people use one office that is smaller than a prison cell over different periods of the day, he said."

Hart would also like space in the station for a public meeting room and facilities for community volunteer programs.

Starboard Development of San Diego has proposed a 42,000 square foot headquarters to be built across from the Civic Center on National City Boulevard, but other locations may still be considered. The term of the \$6.5 million bond would be 30 years, costing a single family homeowner an extra \$35 to \$40 dollars per year.

Finance Director Alex Caloza said the exact assessments were still being computed, but the tax would be placed on all property owners in National City.

Last year a similar bond issue failed to capture the two-thirds majority, with 56 percent of voters favoring the issue. Then-Mayor Kile Morgan led the opposition, proposing a new city hall and consolidating the police department in the existing Civic Center.

Councilman Fred Pruitt was opposed to the manner of funding the station when he ran as a candidate for City Council in November, but now favors the bond, saying no state or federal funds would be available for the station.

Pruitt was also opposed to the eviction of nine property owners at Morgan's proposed Plaza Boulevard and National City Boulevard Site, but acknowledged one property owner would have to be evicted under the bond proposal.

The councilman agreed with Mayor Waters' comments that the police chief was making inappropriate threats.

Including office workers, the police department salary budget is \$2.9 million a year — nearly one-half the total department budget of \$6.2 million. The police department budget is 25 percent of the annual city budget, making it the largest single expenditure.



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

October 15, 1987

Mayor George Waters:

We request that you as Mayor, place before the City Council, (10/20/87) for a vote, the following motion which our organization requested action on at the past (10/13/87) council meeting. That the National City Council go on record and past a motion:

- A. that California' State Governor George Deukmejian order the appropriate State and County agencies to immediately investigate Pacific Steel (PSI).
- B. that P.S.I. be closed due to the "public hazard" that it poses to the health, safety, and general welfare of residents of National City.

We must assume at this point, that the inaction of the City Council was a simple oversight. We will await your response to our request to entertain the above motion and the decision of the City Council.

Thank you in advance,

Herman Baca,
Chairman CCR



CCR

Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

10/29/87

TOM G. McCABE
NATIONAL CITY, CITY MANAGER
1243 NATIONAL CITY BLVD.
NATIONAL CITY, CA 92050

MR. McCABE

CONSIDER THIS A FORMAL COMPLAINT. DUE TO ^{information} A COMPLAINT RECEIVED BY OUR ORGANIZATION, FROM AN ^{IRRATE} VOTER, OUR ORGANIZATION IS DEMANDING THE FOLLOWING FROM YOUR OFFICE: ^{N.C.} THAT

you TAKE

- A) THAT YOU ORDER CHIEF OF POLICE TERRY HART TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM POLITICING ^{ON} TAXPAYERS MONIES AND TIME (AS HE IS PRESENTLY DOING) FOR PASSAGE OF PROPOSITION "O". ^{IMMEDIATELY}
- B) THAT YOUR OFFICE ISSUE A MEMORANDUM ^{INSTRUCTING} ORDERING ALL CITY EMPLOYEES, (ESPECIALLY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT) FROM POLITICING WHILE WORKING. ^{TO PREVENT}
- C) THAT YOU ^{OR THE CITY COUNCIL} ISSUE CHIEF OF POLICE TERRY HART A LETTER OF REPRIMAND, AND THAT HE BE DOCKED PAY FOR THE TIME UTILIZED WHILE POLITICING ON TAXPAYERS MONIES.

THE ACTIONS OF CHIEF HART, OF POLITICING WHILE UTILIZING TAXPAYERS MONIES, TIME IS IN OUR OPINION ILLEGAL, PROHIBITED BY CITY POLICY, AND IS GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL. IN CONCLUDING LET US STATE THAT IF ACTION IS NOT FOURTH COMING ^{ON THIS MATTER}, IN ^{IN} CORRECTING THE INVOLVEMENT OF PAID STAFF ^{IN} POLITICS WHILE WORKING, MISUSING TAXPAYERS MONIES AND TIME, THAT OUR ORGANIZATION WILL PURSUE THIS ISSUE WITH THE FAIR POLITICAL PRATICE COMMISSION AND ^{AND} OTHER APPROPRIATE AGENCIES.

OF CITY

AWAITING YOUR REPLY,

Herman Baca
HERMAN BACA, PRESIDENT

C.C. MAYOR GEORGE WATERS
FAIR POLITICAL PRATICE COMMISSION
NEWS MEDIA



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc.

OCTOBER 30, 1986

TOM G. McCABE
NATIONAL CITY, CITY MANAGER
1243 NATIONAL CITY BLVD.
NATIONAL CITY, CA 92050

MR. McCABE

ON THURSDAY OCTOBER 30, 1986, AT APPROXIMATELY 1:15 P.M. OUR OFFICE AT THE COMMITTEE ON CHICANO RIGHTS RECEIVED 6 COMPLAINTS FROM IRRATE NATIONAL CITY RESIDENTS THAT 4 NATIONAL CITY POLICE OFFICERS WERE DETAINING (IN 2 POLICE CARS) WHAT APPEARED TO BE MEXICAN LOOKING UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS AT THE CORNER OF DIVISION AND HIGHLAND AVENUE. UPON RECEIVING THE COMPLAINTS A CO-WORKER AND MYSELF WENT TO THE SCENE WHERE WE PERSONALLY WITNESSED 2 NATIONAL CITY POLICE OFFICERS HANDING OVER MEXICAN LOOKING INDIVIDUALS TO 2 U.S. BORDER PATROLMAN. (NATIONAL CITY POLICE CAR #104 & BORDER PATROL VAN LIC. # J-11617).

ONCE AGAIN AS IN 1983 OUR ORGANIZATION IS DEEPLY DISTURBED OVER THE ARREST, AND OF THE FOLLOWING CONCERNS WHICH WERE RAISED BY THE RESIDENTS THAT WITNESSED THE INCIDENT:

- (1) HOW WITH THE HIGHEST CRIME RATE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY CAN THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPT. SQUANDER VALUABLE MANPOWER AND PRECIOUS TIME WHILE PLAYING BORDER PATROL AND WAITING FOR THE IMMIGRATION TO ARRIVE (30 TO 45 MINUTES). WE ALSO WONDER WITH THOSE WHO COMPLAINT HOW MANY HOMES WERE BURGLARIZE, CITIZENS ROBBED AND HOW MANY OTHER CRIMES WERE COMMITTED WHILE THE POLICE DEPT. WAS PLAYING BORDER PATROL???
- (2) WHY CHIEF OF POLICE TERRY HART HAS ONCE AGAIN HAS ALLOWED HIS DEPT. TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL IMMIGRATION LAWS, WITHOUT ANY CONSIDERATION OF VIOLATING THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF U.S. CITIZENS OF MEXICAN ANCESTRY IN A CITY WHERE OVER 50% OF THE POPULATION IS OF MEXICAN ANCESTRY!

IT IS BECAUSE OF THIS CONCERNS AND THE APPARENT RESUMPTION BY THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A MATTER OF POLICY IN STOPPING DETAINING, & HANDING OVER TO THE U.S. BORDER PATROL PERSONS SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF RACE (MEXICAN) THAT OUR ORGANIZATION IS HEREBY REQUESTING THAT YOUR OFFICE INVESTIGATE THE OCTOBER 30, 1986 INCIDENT & PROVIDE US WITH A COMPLETE REPORT OF THAT MATTER.

AWAITING A PROMPT REPLY,

Herman Baca
HERMAN BACA, PRESIDENT



CCR

Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

National City, CA

November 10, 1987

For Immediate Press Release

The Committee on Chicano Rights (CCR) appearing before the National City Council today Accused Mayor George Waters and the city council of attempting to sabotage and ignore the will and manadate of National City voters who last week voted down Prop. 0, the 6.7 Million Dollar police building bond. Herman Baca, President of the CCR attacked press statements by public officials that despite last weeks election result that they would continue to push for a new police building as "a cynical effort to circumvent and totally disregard the clear economic and political message that has twice been send to them". A message that includes the following:

- 1) That taxpayers do not want to be taxed!
- 2) That taxpayers consider a police building a mispropriety, and do not want the building constructed!
- 3) That voters want fundemental changes governing attitudes, race relations, performance, professionalism, complaint procedures and control and accountability.

Baca in his address to the city council warned the city fathers not to ignore the message and the will of the voters and proposed the following solutions:

- 1) That the city council appoint a blue ribbon panel to investigate the the National City Police Department and recommend needed changes in pol-icies, pratices and procdures.
- 2) That the city council create a "CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD" composed of a cross section of the community with subpeona powers.
- 3) That the city council fire Chief of Police Terry Hart for misadminist-ration of duty, threating of National City voters, and politicing while on duty.

Until the above are addressed concluded Baca "A continual state of non-support and creditability will rule police/community relations.

For further information call (619)474-8195



Committee on Chicano Rights, Inc

National City, CA

November 10, 1987

For Immediate Press Release

The Committee on Chicano Rights (CCR) appearing before the National City Council today Accused Mayor George Waters and the city council of attempting to sabotage and ignore the will and manadate of National City voters who last week voted down Prop. O, the 6.7 Million Dollar police building bond. Herman Baca, President of the CCR attacked press statements by public officials that despite last weeks election result that they would continue to push for a new police building as "a cynical effort to circumvent and totally disregard the clear economic and political message that has twice been send to them". A message that includes the following:

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For further information call (619)474-8195

Source of funding major obstacle to overcome Council still hopes to build police dep

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

National City police officials are confident that a new police station will be built, despite the failure of a bond issue intended to fund it.

A number of factors still remain to be decided, such as determining where the money will come from and what role former mayor Kile Morgan will play.

Despite the uncertainty, Hart said he and his officers were encouraged by

Mayor George Waters and the City Council, who indicated they would still push for a new building after last week's election. Proposition O, which needed a two-thirds vote to pass, failed to get even a majority.

Hart said he feels very optimistic and will not be leaving because of negative conditions in the department, adding his officers would like to see progress.

"If construction can begin in four to six months, it will be physical proof that the future is brighter than it was before," Hart said.

He said officers were initially disappointed over the failure of the bond, but became more hopeful and optimistic after hearing Waters' comments and individual conferences with them. Reactions from policemen seemed to confirm the chief's observations told the people they will continue to work.

"We have looked at the bond issue and now our primary interest is providing police service to this town. We have too much pride in ourselves to do anything else than the best," said Capt. Tom Deese on Friday.

On Wednesday, the mood was somber around the station, and officers were disappointed.

"I'm upset over people not realizing what we need. I have been in the department for 25 years, and I have never been as crowded in the last five years," said Sgt. Frank Chenelle. "We will go along and do our job. We've been kicked in the face before."

Proposition O was favored by 48 percent and opposed by 52 percent of those voting. If passed, it would have allowed the city to issue bonds to help finance a

classes.
Hart said voters did not favor Proposition O because of reactions to recent economic situations and circumstances, referring to the stock market fall on Wall Street. He gave examples of other propositions asking for increased taxes not passing, such as the Sweetwater School District bond.
Meanwhile, Morgan shared his comments about the outcome of the election and agreed on some issues, but maintained a hard-line stance his idea to build a new civic center.
He said the bond failed because the people did not want to be taxed, not because of Hart's threats to leave. "Hart is the best

local, and I wouldn't like to be a consultant. There's too much confusion down there," Morgan said.
Morgan has said money is available from other sources than the city's budget, but Hart contends Morgan is not influential enough to get the money on his own and only the city can compete for federal funds.
Morgan said voters should decide in another election if they want a new police station or a new city hall. He advised city officials to heed election results and not build a new facility. "By not getting a majority, it will be a dangerous situation for the council."

Police chief, officers threaten to resign if voters don't approve bonds for station

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

National City Police Chief Terry Hart announced Wednesday that he would leave the department and 35 to 40 officers would resign if a new police station is not built.

The announcement came during a Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting at Jimmy's Restaurant on Plaza Boulevard. Hart, addressing business people attending the meeting, attempted to convince them of

the merits of a new \$8.83 million police headquarters for the community.

In November, voters will decide if they are willing to add a \$6.3 million bond issue to be their tax rolls to partially finance the station. A similar measure on last November's ballot failed to get a required two-thirds vote.

"If in fact this was not accepted, I would look for another job. I do not want to spend my life working in a negative environment," he said. "If the police facility is not accomplished, 35 to 40 officers will leave.

There is no way in hell this city can absorb that loss."

Hart said he has officers on waiting lists ready to leave. The loss would amount to one-half of the city's patrol officers and ranking officers. The department has 53 patrol officers and 19 lieutenants, captains and sergeants.

Acting Capt. Tom Deese, head of the National City Police Officer's Association, said

Please see Chief: A-9

8/23/87

Chief

Continued from A-1

Hart's estimate is fairly accurate, but did not expect the men to stage a mass walkout. He said they would leave over a period of months.

"It's not going to happen overnight," Deese said. "These men are acting independently, completely on their own, and are taking actions should their future not be here. It's no secret...without a building there is no future."

Deese said the police department is not threatening anyone, just explaining the facts. "It's going to happen. People of this town deserve better police service."

Lt. Bill Osburn said the average National City officer makes about \$30,000 a year — ranging from \$26,000 for a rookie to \$32,600 for a four-year veteran. If 40 officers left, the impact in salary loss to the city payroll would be \$1.2 million.

"My opinion is that our officers draw a good salary," Mayor George Waters said Thursday. "I don't believe he (Hart) should make statements to hold the public hostage...To me, he's not using much common sense. I think he should knock it off."

Hart said the handwriting is on the wall. Two sergeants just resigned — although not necessarily as a result of the bond issue — and approximately 20 percent of the department's officers leave each year. New officers fill the open positions, but recruits are not fully productive until they undergo 10 months of training and testing, he said.

Most officers leave the force because better paying jobs await them, Hart said, adding other agencies recognize the experience they gain in National City. Hart said the district attorney's investigative office hires a many National City officers.

"Our officers get seven to 10 years worth of experience in five years," he said. "Our patrol officers make decisions made by sergeants and investigators and get experience very quickly. We don't want to continue to lose people."

"The only reason to build a new station is that it would significantly improve the police service in the community," Hart said, adding National City has one of the oldest and smallest stations in the county.

He produced records showing that arrests and patrol stops have increased significantly since 1963, when the Civic Center was first planned.

The police headquarters were built in 1966 and are in the basement of the Civic Center on National City Boulevard. Detective offices are located in rented space on 12th Street.

The station has no public restrooms and limited conference and interview space, Hart said.

"Who wants to come in the lobby with a significant or private problem in front of six other citizens," he said, referring to a small lobby in the station.

Hart also explained that there are no partitions between detectives, and that conversations between police and subjects can get confusing and are

"It's not going to happen overnight. These men are acting independently, completely on their own, and are taking actions should their future not be here. It's no secret...without a building there is no future."

— Acting Capt. Tom Deese

not private. Victims and witnesses would not be as candid, providing less information for detectives to solve and prosecute crimes.

"You would be affected by other conversations," he said. "You cannot carry on a private, personal conversation regarding a crime in this open arena. The police facility we now have is too small for what we now do," Hart said, adding that the basement station has already been remodeled eight times.

"Seven people use one office that is smaller than a prison cell over different periods of the day, he said."

Hart would also like space in the station for a public meeting room and facilities for community volunteer programs.

Starboard Development of San Diego has proposed a 42,000 square foot headquarters to be built across from the Civic Center on National City Boulevard, but other locations may still be considered. The term of the \$6.5 million bond would be 30 years, costing a single family homeowner an extra \$35 to \$40 dollars per year.

Finance Director Alex Caloza said the exact assessments were still being computed, but the tax would be placed on all property owners in National City.

Last year a similar bond issue failed to capture the two-thirds majority, with 56 percent of voters favoring the issue. Then-Mayor Kile Morgan led the opposition, proposing a new city hall and consolidating the police department in the existing Civic Center.

Councilman Fred Pruitt was opposed to the manner of funding the station when he ran as a candidate for City Council in November, but now favors the bond, saying no state or federal funds would be available for the station.

Pruitt was also opposed to the eviction of nine property owners at Morgan's proposed Plaza Boulevard and National City Boulevard Site, but acknowledged one property owner would have to be evicted under the bond proposal.

The councilman agreed with Mayor Waters' comments that the police chief was making inappropriate threats.

Including office workers, the police department salary budget is \$2.9 million a year — nearly one-half the total department budget of \$6.2 million. The police department budget is 25 percent of the annual city budget, making it the largest single expenditure.

COMMUNITY/POLICE RELATIONS

- 1.) NATIONAL CITY HAS HAD A REPUTATION FOR BEING A KICK-ASS, TAKE NAMES TYPE OF POLICE DEPARTMENT. (See Chief Terry Hart, L.A. Times-4/9/87)
- 2.) " HISTORICALLY, THERE HAVE BEEN AN INCREDIBLE NUMBER OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS FILED AGAINST THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT". " IN NUMEROUS MEETINGS THAT I"VE HAD WITH TERRY, I"VE SUGGESTED THAT HE OUGHT TO ESTABLISH A POLICY THAT PROTECTS PEOPLE AGAINST UNREASONABLE ABUSE FROM POLICE OFFICERS". (District Attorney Edwin Miller, L.A. Times 4/9/87)
- 3.) 25 LAWSUITS BY INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN FILED AGAINST CHIEF TERRY HART AND VARIOUS OFFICERS SINCE 1982. (L.A. TIMES 4/9/87)
- 4.) SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT FILED AN INTERNAL INVESTIGATION CONCLUDING THAT NATIONAL CITY POLICE USED EXCESSIVE FORCE. (L.A. Times- 4/9/87)
5. F.B.I. HAS INVESTIGATED THE NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE 3RD TIME RECENTLY. (L.A. Times 4/9/87)
- 6.) NATIONAL CITY POLICE ENFORCE FEDERAL IMMIGRATION LAWS. CHIEF TERRY HART RECALLS DAYS WHEN SOUTHBAY POLICE ROUTINELY WENT ALIEN HUNTING AND TURNED OVER ILLEGALS TO THE U.S. BORDER PATROL. FOR THEIR TROUBLE COPS GOT A BOUNTY OF 3 OR 4 BOXES OF PRACTICE AMMUNITION. (Reader Magazine-3/3/83)
- 7.) NATIONAL CITY HAS HIGHEST CRIME RATE PER CAPITA IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY, ACCORDING TO SANDAG. (L.A. Times 4/9/87)

Cost of jail bond 77 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation

STOENEW
9/31/77

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Formal arguments both for and against a \$6.5 million bond proposition to finance a new city police department were released last week by National City Clerk lone Campbell.

Campbell also issued an impartial analysis on "Proposition Q" from City Attorney George Eiser and an estimated cost of the bond to taxpayers if it is approved.

Voters will decide in November if they want a \$6.5 million bond issue added on property taxes to help finance a new \$8.83 million police station. A similar measure last November did not get the required two-thirds vote.

In his comments on the arguments, Mayor George Waters said that Police Chief Terry Hart apologized for comments made at a recent Chamber of Commerce membership breakfast. Hart told the Chamber he would consider leaving the department and that 35 to 40 officers would leave if the bond was not accepted.

"He said he got overanxious where interviews were taking place in a public forum," Waters said. Hart could not be reached Tuesday for comment.

"I gave this some real thought when the council asked me to head up the argument for the bond," Waters said, adding he was concerned about the need to put the department in one building and to keep officers from moving to other agencies.

Former mayor Kile Morgan is heading opposition for the bond, claiming a new city hall should be built and the police department consolidated in the present Civic Center. He was opposed to the bond last year, also.

"It is against all the principals I have to put a bond on the people of the city," he said. "I can build a Civic Center without a bond."

"We should have been taking some action on this years ago," Waters said. "I'm going to work hard to convince people of the need for the new police station. I will call attention to the people that federal funding has been cut off. It's not like the old days when grants were available on a routine basis.

"I'm not interested in an all out battle with anyone in opposition to the bond. We should stick to the needs of the citizens," Waters said.

He and the City Council formulated the argument favoring the proposition, while Morgan and four other local citizens signed the argument against. They include: Doris McKinney, former Civil Service commissioner; retired barber Kenneth Ataway; former council candidate Daryl Gorham and long-time resident Donna DeMoss.

The best estimate of the proposed tax rate levied on all property owners in the city to fund the bond is \$.07766 per \$100 valuation, starting in the 1988-89

Please see Pro-Con: A-8

Police Incidents	1963	1986	Percent Increase
Vehicle Accidents	838	1,523	82
Injury Accidents	173	645	273
Hit and Run Accidents	114	515	352
Crimes Reported	2,663	10,976	312
Arrests Made	1,547	5,585	261
Calls for Police Service	21,676	55,000+	154

Pro-Con

Continued from A-1

fiscal year. For example, a \$100,000 house would be assessed \$77.66 per year. According to City Attorney George Eiser, the actual amount of the bonds could be less than \$6.5 million, depending on the cost of the project.

He wrote that the proposition would authorize some increase in property taxes, with the actual amount depending on the size, term and the interest rate of the bonds, and the actual cost of the project.

He instructed people to vote "yes" or "no" on the proposition on the basis of authorizing the city to build the station and increase property taxes.

The council's argument in favor of the proposition follows:

"There is one primary reason to build a new police building—to improve the quality of police service delivered to this community!

The present police station is located in the basement of city hall and was designed in 1963 when the police department had about 33 employees.

"The police department now has three times that number of employees and a significantly higher level of activity. Other than the Coronado police building, the National City police station is the oldest and smallest police facility in this county.

"The need for a larger, more modern, better equipped building

can be seen by comparing the number of police incidents in the years 1963 and 1986: (see chart). During the last three years the 'employee turnover rate,' the number of employees who leave the National City Police Department, has been almost twice that of most local agencies. Valuable years of experience are lost every time a police officer leaves, experience that may spell the difference in a life-threatening situation. Tax dollars are also spent to recruit and train their replacements.

"The overcrowded and ill-equipped conditions of the existing police station are definite factors contributing to this turnover rate. A larger, modern police station will allow the city to recruit and retain more qualified personnel which will result in better police services of all types to the people of this community.

"Every person who comes to National City to live, work, shop or recreate deserves improved police service. A new, better equipped police building is the cornerstone of that improvement."

Morgan's argument against the proposition:

"Vote no on Proposition O, a \$6.5 million bond issue, which when paid off with interest, will cost our home owners around \$20 million. More space is needed by our police. This should be built

by the city, not our taxpayers. The average income in National City is \$15,000 a year.

"Our council pays some of its top employees approximately \$100,000 a year and has widened a street and installed curbs, gutters and sidewalks at no cost to business. The city collected some \$10 million in sales taxes this year. After adopting a \$24 million budget, the council was left a \$6 million reserve. The city has other resources: federal, state and county funds.

"Not one bond issue was proposed or passed in National City in the past 22 years. During this time we built two senior towers with 300 units, plus a senior recreation center. We spent \$20 million on streets and drainage, plus \$5 million for sewers, \$3 million on parks, \$1 million for a gymnasium, \$1 million on a golf course and built three community buildings.

"We developed: South Bay Plaza, Plaza Bonita, the Mile of Cars and Heritage Square. The point is we did this, and more, without trying to place a bond on your home to pay off.

"Vote no on this National City Proposition O bond. Build the police facility with city funds. The council is considering the turnkey plan which insures the builder and consultant will get his money without having to go to bid for the job.

"This builder and consultant will receive a percentage of the cost of the project, approximately \$1 million. The site is not yet chosen. Vote no on this blank check deal!"

Residents would relocate if new city hall were built

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Relocating property owners who would be affected by either side of the bond issue controversy will probably not be difficult.

A survey of residents in the area of 16th and D streets by *The Star-News* revealed most people were willing to cooperate with the city by accepting a fair market value for their property in order to have a new municipal civic center built on their block.

Under a plan from former Mayor Kile Morgan, homes on the block would be torn down to make room for the facility. Police operations could then be consolidated into existing space at the civic center.

Morgan said the new police station would cost \$4 million to build and would be paid for through federal, state and private funds. Mayor George Waters claims Morgan's project would cost \$20 million.

Waters favors a \$6.5 million bond issue to build a new police station on the corner of 16th and National City Boulevard and renovate the civic center into additional office space. His plan would require acquisition of a car dealership.

Last November, a similar \$6.5 million bond measure failed to capture the needed two-thirds vote.

The homes in the block proposed for

Morgan's project are a mixture of rentals and privately owned homes, but is zoned for general commercial. Most of the homeowners rent another house on the block. There are 12 buildings in the block, including a duplex.

"Let them have it. I'd like to move anyway," said Thelma Gordon of 1519 Avenue, adding she would have no objections toward selling her property. She said she would not support a bond issue for a new police station because it would cost too much to the taxpayer.

Gordon estimated the value of her two properties, based on past property valuations, to be about \$130,000. Her son, Darrel, was an unsuccessful candidate for city council last November.

Other homeowners were not as eager to sell, but said they would consider a friendly buyout if the issue reaches that point.

Ann and Jim Graham have lived in their house on the corner of 15th and E for 20 years and have reared five children there. Ann Graham favors a new police station instead of a new city hall on the block, but would move if forced to.

"I would miss this place, but I guess you've got to sometimes move in the face of progress. It's up to the majority to say and we should go along with it. Any money spent for the police is money well spent," she said. "They are in need of new station. They have outgrown the old one and need a larger facility."

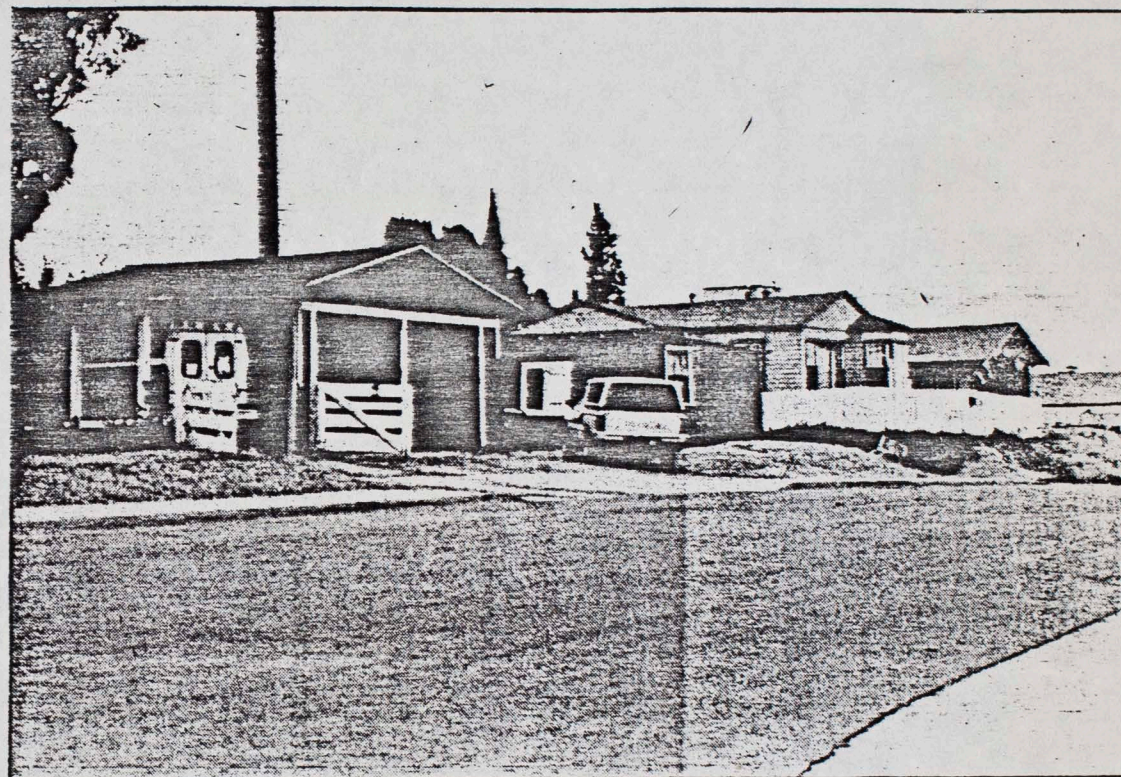


Photo by George McCrory

Residents along 15th Street would have to be relocated if city councilmembers decided to follow the recommendation of former Mayor Kile Morgan and build a new city hall. A majority of the landowners said they like where they are at, but would not fight the city.

Ray Cox, who lives at 415 E. 16th, said he would "probably go with the rest of the property owners," but would hate to move. He bought his house in 1956 and rents another next door. He likes living there, but said there is too much traffic and noise from the fire station across the street.

Cox's tenant, Lottie McBain said the city

could go ahead with the new city hall on the block. "I'd have to move, but that's OK," she said.

Another renter in the block also said they had no objections to Morgan's plan. "I think a new city hall should go here and the police should use the old station," said David Gartner of 408 E. 15th St.

Plans submitted for \$8.8 million police station

7/9/87

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Plans for an \$8.83 million police station were submitted to the National City Council by Starboard Development during a Tuesday workshop session.

The majority of the funding would come from proceeds of a \$6.28 million bond issue, which could be placed before voters in November.

Last fall, National City voters narrowly defeated a \$6.5 million bond issue to finance a new facility.

The council did not enter into an agreement with Starboard, wanting more time to study the proposal. It did retain bond counsel and hired Deloitte, Haskins and Sells to review the financial aspects of the proposal, paying them not more than \$3,500.

Assistant City Manager Jerry Bolint expected some council action by July 21. The council last month directed Starboard to provide cost estimate and study four potential sites.

Brad Saunders of Starboard

presented the plans to the council, which included selection of the Plasma site at National City Boulevard and Civic Center drive as the most favorable location for a new station.

Saunders said three other potential sites were not chosen because of problems in acquiring land or would be difficult to build on.

The 62,000 square foot plasma site was selected because it was near the Civic Center and had a high visibility that would inhibit crime in the neighborhood, according to the report.

Saunders said a bridge could later be constructed from the Civic Center to the new station. A 7 foot fall on the site would allow a two-level parking lot at the back of the facility.

"All but one owner-occupant was reluctant to sell," Saunders said. "As far as economy, it appears to be the most favorable site."

If a bond issue passes, he said, the new station could be completed and occupied by March 1989.

Please see Plans: A-6

Plans

Continued from A-1

In the Starboard proposal, the city and its Community Development Commission would join under the Joint Powers Act in order to obtain more tax increment funds after a bond issue passed.

Besides bond revenue and taxes, Saunders said, federal funds and \$100,000 already in the city budget would finance the project. An additional \$550,000 city contribution over several years would cover any fixtures and furnishings needed for the station.

He said the city would not be liable for any extra costs incurred, but any savings would revert to the city. The construction would bid out, with minority-run companies having 20 percent participation.

"We don't want the city to be put in a box as far as what they're going to pay," Saunders said.

Starboard would collect a 10 percent fee for privately developing and then turning over the facility to the city, or about \$765,500. Payment by the city would be subject to its acceptance and noting completion of work, expiration of a lien period, and an audit of Starboard by Price,

Waterhouse and Co.

In the architect's plans, the new 42,000 square foot station would be three levels, with a port on one side to drop off prisoners. A pistol range and modular office cubicles would also be included.

Bolint said presenting a bond issue to the public would require four out of five council members voting favorably on the issue. They must call for the issue before July 28 to be on the November 4 ballot.

Starboard developed a similar turnkey plan for the San Diego Police Headquarters.

Police chief, officers threaten to resign if voters don't approve bonds for station

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

National City Police Chief Terry Hart announced Wednesday that he would leave the department and 35 to 40 officers would resign if a new police station is not built.

The announcement came during a Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting at Jimmy's Restaurant on Plaza Boulevard. Hart, addressing business people attending the meeting, attempted to convince them of

the merits of a new \$8.83 million police headquarters for the community.

In November, voters will decide if they are willing to add a \$6.3 million bond issue to be their tax rolls to partially finance the station. A similar measure on last November's ballot failed to get a required two-thirds vote.

"If in fact this was not accepted, I would look for another job. I do not want to spend my life working in a negative environment," he said. "If the police facility is not accomplished, 35 to 40 officers will leave.

There is no way in hell this city can absorb that loss."

Hart said he has officers on waiting lists ready to leave. The loss would amount to one-half of the city's patrol officers and ranking officers. The department has 53 patrol officers and 19 lieutenants, captains and sergeants.

Acting Capt. Tom Deese, head of the National City Police Officer's Association, said

Please see Chief: A-9

8/23/87

Chief

Continued from A-1

Hart's estimate is fairly accurate, but did not expect the men to stage a mass walkout. He said they would leave over a period of months.

"It's not going to happen overnight," Deese said. "These men are acting independently, completely on their own, and are taking actions should their future not be here. It's no secret...without a building there is no future."

Deese said the police department is not threatening anyone, just explaining the facts. "It's going to happen. People of this town deserve better police service."

Lt. Bill Osburn said the average National City officer makes about \$30,000 a year — ranging from \$26,000 for a rookie to \$32,600 for a four-year veteran. If 40 officers left, the impact in salary loss to the city payroll would be \$1.2 million.

"My opinion is that our officers draw a good salary," Mayor George Waters said Thursday. "I don't believe he (Hart) should make statements to hold the public hostage...To me, he's not using much common sense. I think he should knock it off."

Hart said the handwriting is on the wall. Two sergeants just resigned — although not necessarily as a result of the bond issue — and approximately 20 percent of the department's officers leave each year. New officers fill the open positions, but recruits are not fully productive until they undergo 10 months of training and testing, he said.

Most officers leave the force because better paying jobs await them, Hart said, adding other agencies recognize the experience they gain in National City. Hart said the district attorney's investigative office hires a many National City officers.

"Our officers get seven to 10 years worth of experience in five years," he said. "Our patrol officers make decisions made by sergeants and investigators and get experience very quickly. We don't want to continue to lose people."

"The only reason to build a new station is that it would significantly improve the police service in the community," Hart said, adding National City has one of the oldest and smallest stations in the county.

He produced records showing that arrests and patrol stops have increased significantly since 1963, when the Civic Center was first planned.

The police headquarters were built in 1966 and are in the basement of the Civic Center on National City Boulevard. Detective offices are located in rented space on 12th Street.

The station has no public restrooms and limited conference and interview space, Hart said.

"Who wants to come in the lobby with a significant or private problem in front of six other citizens," he said, referring to a small lobby in the station.

Hart also explained that there are no partitions between detectives, and that conversations between police and subjects can get confusing and are

"It's not going to happen overnight. These men are acting independently, completely on their own, and are taking actions should their future not be here. It's no secret...without a building there is no future."

— Acting Capt. Tom Deese

not private. Victims and witnesses would not be as candid, providing less information for detectives to solve and prosecute crimes.

"You would be affected by other conversations," he said. "You cannot carry on a private, personal conversation regarding a crime in this open arena. The police facility we now have is too small for what we now do," Hart said, adding that the basement station has already been remodeled eight times.

"Seven people use one office that is smaller than a prison cell over different periods of the day, he said."

Hart would also like space in the station for a public meeting room and facilities for community volunteer programs.

Starboard Development of San Diego has proposed a 42,000 square foot headquarters to be built across from the Civic Center on National City Boulevard, but other locations may still be considered. The term of the \$6.5 million bond would be 30 years, costing a single family homeowner an extra \$35 to \$40 dollars per year.

Finance Director Alex Caloza said the exact assessments were still being computed, but the tax would be placed on all property owners in National City.

Last year a similar bond issue failed to capture the two-thirds majority, with 56 percent of voters favoring the issue. Then-Mayor Kile Morgan led the opposition, proposing a new city hall and consolidating the police department in the existing Civic Center.

Councilman Fred Pruitt was opposed to the manner of funding the station when he ran as a candidate for City Council in November, but now favors the bond, saying no state or federal funds would be available for the station.

Pruitt was also opposed to the eviction of nine property owners at Morgan's proposed Plaza Boulevard and National City Boulevard Site, but acknowledged one property owner would have to be evicted under the bond proposal.

The councilman agreed with Mayor Waters' comments that the police chief was making inappropriate threats.

Including office workers, the police department salary budget is \$2.9 million a year — nearly one-half the total department budget of \$6.2 million. The police department budget is 25 percent of the annual city budget, making it the largest single expenditure.

Controversial bond issue ignites debate

Morgan, Waters square-off over best plan for city

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

A referendum seeking voter support for a \$6.5 million bond issue has turned into a political showdown between former National City Mayor Kile Morgan and current Mayor George Waters.

What otherwise should have been a mundane yes or no decision at the polls this November has grown into major issue with the future of the city police department on line.

Ironically, the issue is not what needs to be done — provide additional space for city offices and consolidate the police department into one, larger facility — but how to accomplish this goal.

Morgan, who led opposition to the bond while mayor last year, vowed to continue his fight. He wants council members to build a new city hall and remodel the ex-

isting building for police.

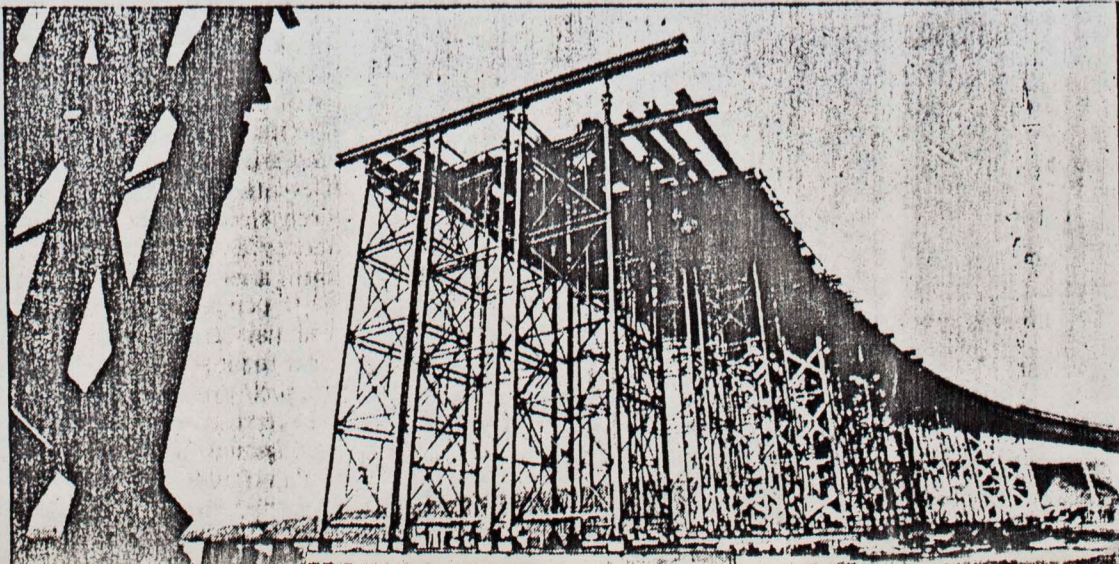
"I can build a city hall without a bond issue," Morgan said, adding the project could be financed through federal, state and private sources. "I would remodel the old city hall into an absolutely first class station. All 15 departments would have all the room they need."

Morgan said he has "helped build most every important project in the city without the use of bonds. I think we could build a new city hall for not one penny over what they're proposing now. How many times have I been wrong on these things? I have been a builder estimating costs all my life."

"When Kile was mayor there were several ways of getting federal and other money. That kind of money isn't available now," Waters said. "The easiest

Please see Mayors: A-9

8/23/77



Mayors

Continued from A-1

way to build the station without cutting other projects is to use the bond route."

City councilman Jess Van Deventer agreed that federal money is not as available now as it was during Morgan's administration. Therefore, a "turnkey" developer was chosen to speed along the process.

Starboard Development of San Diego has proposed an \$8.83 million, 42,000-square-foot building for the police department. Although an exact location has not been determined for the proposed police department, property at the corner of 16th and National City Boulevard is thought to be the first choice.

Officials from Starboard said the landowner, a local car dealer, was willing to negotiate with the city and that tenant relocations would be much simpler compared to alternative sites.

A major disadvantage to the property, situated at the west end of Kimball Park, is its location in a 100-year flood plain. Although the cost to overcome the flooding danger would be within budget, a higher ground location might not resolve access to the station during a flood.

Starboard studies said streets remaining at the lower elevation would be subject to flooding.

The city has already contributed \$100,000 to build the station and committed \$450,000 over the next few years for fixtures and furnishings. Revenue sharing funds and tax allocation bond proceeds would be used to pay the difference between the proposed bond money and actual construction costs.

The controversy thickened Wednesday morning when National City Police Chief Terry



Mayor George Waters

"I don't think he's being fair to this administration. We're back to the old stuff, the arguing and fighting. I think the public is tired of it. He should let this administration do what they want."

— Mayor George Waters

Hart threatened to resign if voters did not approve money for a new station. He said the situation is so bad about half his department would follow in the ensuing months. Currently the police department operates from the civic center basement and rents office space on 12th Avenue for the detective bureau. (See lead story.)

Morgan said moving the police equipment into a new building

would be an expensive proposition. He said partitions in the Civic Center could easily be altered to accommodate police officers.

Morgan said the \$20 million estimate for his new city hall was inaccurate. He said a 40,000-square-foot building could be constructed for \$4 million — or about one-half the cost for a police station. And, Morgan is opposed to the turnkey plan — where a developer receives a certain percentage of the project cost.

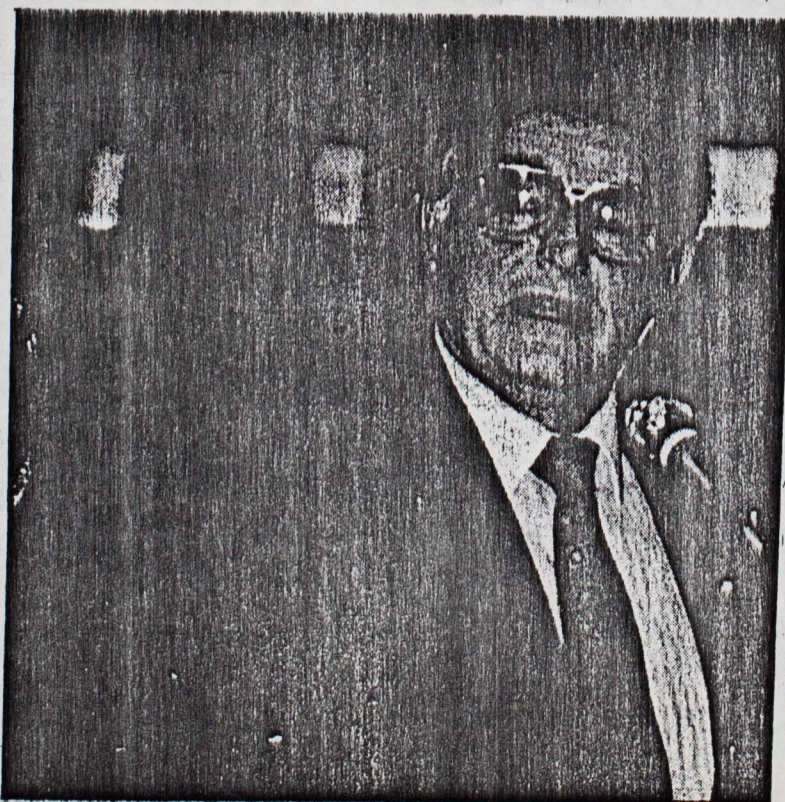
While mayor, Morgan said he was extremely hard-nosed. He had other feelings about the current administration, "You've got these people who really don't know what they are doing up there. They don't have plans going from one year, to five years, to ten years down the line."

"I don't think he's being fair to this administration," Waters said. "We're back to the old stuff, the arguing and fighting. I think the public is tired of it. He should let this administration do what they want."

"He left us with many lawsuits and a broken city council," Van Deventer commented. "We've been elected to save the people money and we're trying to give them a good quality station."

"I personally think the bond will pass this time. It came so close to passing last time with not as much work put into it. This is an off year, and we will let our feelings show."

Van Deventer expressed concern that building a new city hall would create a major land acquisition problem. "We would be tied up in legal battles for years. Do we have that kind of time to



Former Mayor Kile Morgan

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Former Mayor Kile Morgan

STAFF NEWS
9/20/87

Garry Edwards, Publisher
Dale Morton, Managing Editor

Letters to the editor

Greatest need is a new police station

I recently made some comments at a public meeting about myself and other officers who would resign from the police department if a new police building is not built. Some people, including your paper, characterized those comments as "threats" to the voters; other people hearing the same comments interpreted them as expressions of how urgent and desperate the need for a new police building has become.

The purpose of my letter is to publicly apologize to anyone who interpreted my comments as a "threat" and to offer a brief explanation as to what my message was intended to mean. Therefore, to those who interpreted my comments as threats — I'm sorry, I did not intend them to be.

Those who know me personally know that I do not believe the voters in this town will build a new police building just because the chief of police said he will resign. The police department and the service it provides to the people of this community is far more important than any one chief of police. I replaced the chief before me — I know someone will replace me when I go, no matter what way I go.

The purpose of my comments was to simply illustrate how critical the need for a new police building has become over the last few years. Too many people

believe the "need" for a new police building is only one year old. This is a reasonable assumption given that most citizens only became aware of the issue at last year's general elections.

The truth is that the "need" for a new building is already almost four years old. (Yes, the city council and city management began studies and discussions about the need for additional space for the police almost four years ago!)

If the bond measure is approved in November, it will still take two years to build and occupy the building. Therefore, it will have been six years since we started on a program to relieve the cramped and obsolete conditions of our present police building and to build a new building that will result in *improved police service for all people of this community.*

Surely, people can understand how and why their police officers and I have felt frustrated because we have not been able to convince enough people of the urgency of the need to build a new police building. For whatever reasons, our efforts have not been successful.

We desperately need the help of the citizens of this community. We need each of you to tour your police building and make up your own mind. If you become convinced, we need you to convince your neighbor, your friend or your relative. A police building is a community building and it requires community participation.

This year, just as last year, the group opposing this bond measure is led by ex-Mayor Kile

Morgan. No one who has lived, worked, shopped or recreated in National City during the last 20 years has to be reminded of the good things that Mayor Morgan accomplished for this city during his reign and, therefore, you will not hear me making negative comments about him and his past accomplishments, except on this one issue — the need to build a new police building and not a new city hall.

The opposition has publicly stated — "More space is needed by our police." This statement is the opening sentence in the second paragraph of their argument. Please read it; you'll see it for yourself.

The opposition implies that there are state and federal funds available to build the police building. Ask yourself one question — If that were true, why didn't Mayor Morgan obtain these funds during the last two and one half years of his administration when the need for building a new police building was being reviewed, discussed and decided?

The answer is very simple — there are no such funds. If there were, the city council on a 4-1 vote would have built the police building two years ago!

I beg every National City citizen to please get involved in this issue. Review the facts; make up your own mind and vote according to your own perception of the needs of this community. Do you need improved police service in this town or a bigger city hall?

TERRY HART
Chief of Police
National City

Supporters of bond form organization

STARNEWS
12/1/57

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Supporters of the \$6.5 million bond issue for a new police station have organized and raised about \$3,500 for their cause.

The opposition, led by former Mayor Kile Morgan has gone into the community, shook hands, and talked over issues with the public in their homes and on the streets. Morgan and his supporters have not yet organized or raised any money.

Chairman Luis Natividad of the Committee for Better Public Safety in support of Proposition O said he has 27 people in his group, which organized Sept. 9 at Granger Music Hall.

The committee will meet weekly, planning the strategy for a successful passage of the proposition in November, which would

help finance the proposed \$7.67 million station.

Natividad said each member has brought in a list 20 names who can be noted as supporting the bond. Telephone campaigns, flyers, lawn signs, bumper stickers and buttons are among ways the committee plans to get across its message.

The group has set a \$5,000 funding goal, with most of the contributions coming from the Mile of Cars. The California Fair Political Practices Committee has been notified of the contributions, with total disclosure figures to be given later this week.

Mayor George Waters said he has helped to raise money for the effort and is optimistic about the passage of the bond issue.

Please see Bond; A-6

Bond

Continued from A-1

"All I am is a kind of bystander. My job is to help them raise money," he said. "I'm hearing mostly positive comments and I think it has a good chance of passing."

Natividad said his supporters a mixture of business owners and residents, with police representatives and all the City Council on his side. However, police personnel can only campaign off duty and only two council members can meet at a time.

Former Mayor Kile Morgan has former City Council can-

didate Daryl Gorham on his side in opposition to the bond, and may form a committee to fight it.

The opposition has said a police station should be built without a bond. They propose consolidation of the police department in the Civic Center and construction of new city hall.

"To put \$20 million on the backs of the people when we are paying some city workers \$100,000 is incomprehensible. It's just not fair," Morgan said. He added city employees like the city manager and attorney make

\$100,000 per year, which includes salaries and benefits.

Morgan bases the \$20 million figure on an estimate of the \$700,000 to \$900,000 yearly interest the city will have to pay on a 30 year bond.

Gorham said he "is 100 percent" against the measure, and was also opposed it in last year's elections. He is also trying to set up the Committee for a Citizen's Forum with Morgan, a general political group concerned with many issues.

"We will have a lot of clout

and will not target our efforts. We feel the council is not responsible," he said. He plans to run for council in 1988.

Gorham has also talked to many people in the community, including many prominent business owners.

"Just by talking to people you can get a lot done," he said. "We don't have the power they have, but I've talked to as many homeowners as I can.

"The average income in National City is \$15,000. We just cannot be taxed any more. Many

people go without the last three or four days of the month. My indication is that the people of National City can't afford a new station," Gorham said.

Natividad argued the city deserves quality police service and the community can afford it, noting the increases in crime since the present station was built in 1966.

"This city has always, in general, had a small-time mentality. My planning program is that the city is going to be larger. More people bring in more crime," he said. "The argument

is quality of service of your police department. They have a base-ment, which was started for 33 employees."

In last November's election, a similar bond issue failed to reach the required two-thirds majority. This year, Natividad wants to inform people, make the issue clear, and get people out to vote.

"I hope the people really take a good look at the proposition," he said. "More important is: if you're for or against it — go out and vote. That's why we lost the last one, because we assumed we had the vote."

Pro-bond circulars are misleading, former mayor says

STAFF NEWS
1-11-82

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

A flyer encouraging National City voters to support a \$6.5 million bond issue in November has raised the fighting spirit of former Mayor Kyle Morgan.

The flyers were sent to 10,400 registered voters in the city by the Citizens for Better Safety, a committee favoring the \$6.5 million bond to build a new police station, according to Councilman Mike Dalla.

All City Councilman support the bond, but Morgan has said the station could be built without taxpayer money. He and his supporters have campaigned against bond by talking to as many

citizens as possible.

The committee has 27 members and a \$5,000 budget, \$2,000 of which went to make the flyers, Dalla said. The postage for each handout averaged 10 cents, he said.

Morgan said he did not receive a mailer, and rhetorically asked, "How many more did not get it?"

"You are not going to change Kyle Morgan's mind on the bond issue. Why waste 20 cents mailing one to him?" Van Deventer said.

"He would do the same thing if he were in our position."

Dalla said some of the committee members had not been sent a

Please see Bond: A-8

Bond

Continued from A-1

flyer by Thursday, but added "nobody was excluded or pulled from the mailing," which was sent out on Monday.

Morgan obtained a mailer from a friend, and said it was inaccurate on a few points. "This thing is misleading and they (the committee) are trying to fool the people. It's highly sneaky to do it this way. Give us the facts and let the voters decide."

Morgan disagreed with a point in the flyer which says the existing police facility has no parking, but said people using the station have parking available in the Waterson College lot on 12th Street. "Most of those parking spaces are left for the city, with some left for the college," he said.

Dalla could not give an exact number of spaces delegated to the police, but said the college fills up most of them. "Go there most any day of the week and you will have difficulty finding a place. I would not call that adequate

parking for the police station," he said.

Van Deventer said three or four public parking spaces are in the station lot across the street on A Avenue, but are filled most of the time.

Morgan also noted the use of a 15,000 square foot figure in the information used to compare the size of the station with others in the county, which does not include the 4,000 feet of rented space for detective offices.

Committee chairman Louis Natividad said the 15,000 figure was put in to emphasize the separate locations of the two buildings, noting the 4,000

square foot figure was included elsewhere in the flyer.

"The point we are making is that the 19,000 square feet are not together in one building," he said. Other information in the flyer shows the increase in crime, arrests and numbers of officers since the current station was proposed in 1963.

Natividad said he wants a station to fit the city's growing needs, saying its planning has always been done with a small-town attitude.

Morgan said voters have always been informed about the issues and voted well in the past. "There's no use to downgrade

the people of National City. They know the difference between what is a bond and what's not."

Van Deventer said the mailer was informative and did not contain any unclear language. "We wanted to inform the people that the proposition is on the ballot and everything they will be voting on."

The response to a mail-back card asking for support of the bond has been positive so far, Dalla said. About 100 cards have been returned this week from residents living in both single-family home and apartment complexes.

Pro-bond circulars are misleading, former mayor says

STANLEY
1-11/87

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

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Please see Bond: A-8

CITY OF NATIONAL CITY

Proposition O

(This proposition will appear on the ballot in the following form.)

O POLICE FACILITY BOND PROPOSITION: Shall the City of National City incur a bonded indebtedness in the principal amount of \$6,500,000, the estimated cost of the public improvements, for the purpose of the acquisition and construction by said city of a certain municipal improvement, to wit, a new police facility, including off-street parking facilities and landscaping therefor and including the acquisition of land necessary therefor?

TAX RATE STATEMENT

Best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue during the first fiscal year after the first sale of the bonds based on assessed valuations available at the time of the election:

Per \$100 of assessed valuation \$0.07766

Best estimate of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue during the first fiscal year after the last sale of the bonds if the bonds are proposed to be sold in series:

N/A (Single Issue)

Best estimate of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue:

Estimated year in which tax rate will apply FY 1988-89
Per \$100 of assessed valuation \$0.07766

CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

Article XIII A of the California Constitution permits bonded indebtedness for the acquisition and improvement of real property by a city if approved by two-thirds of the voters.

The proposed Police Facility Bond Proposition (Proposition "O"), if approved, would permit the City of National City to issue general obligation bonds of up to \$6,500,000 for the acquisition of land for and construction of a new police facility, including off-street parking facilities and landscaping. The actual amount of the bonds could be less than \$6,500,000, depending on the cost of the project.

Approval of this proposition would authorize some increase in property taxes for property located in the city. The actual amount of the increase would depend upon the size of the bond issue, the length of the term over which the bonds are paid off, the cost of the project, and the interest rate on the bonds.

If you desire to authorize the issuance of up to \$6,500,000 in general obligation bonds to construct a new police facility, and to authorize an increase in property taxes to pay for the debt on the bonds, you should vote "yes" on this proposition.

If you do not desire to authorize the issuance of up to \$6,500,000 in general obligation bonds to construct a new police facility, and to authorize an increase in property taxes to pay for the debt on the bonds, you should vote "no" on this proposition.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Proposition "O". If you desire a copy of the Proposition, please call the City Clerk's Office at 336-4226 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

GEORGE H. EISER, III
City Attorney

There is one primary reason to build a new police building - TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF POLICE SERVICE DELIVERED TO THIS COMMUNITY! The present police station is located in the basement of city hall and was designed in 1963 when the police department had about thirty-three (33) employees. The police department now has three times that number of employees and a significantly higher level of activity. Other than the Coronado police building, the National City police station is the oldest and smallest police facility in this county. The need for a larger, more modern, better equipped building can be seen by comparing the number of police incidents in the years 1963 and 1986:

<u>Police Incidents</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Vehicle Accidents	838	1,523	82%
Injury Accidents	173	645	273%
Hit and Run Accidents	114	515	352%
Crimes Reported	2,663	10,976	312%
Arrests Made	1,547	5,585	261%
Calls for Police Service	21,676	55,000+	154%

During the last three years the "employee turnover rate" - the number of employees who leave the National City Police Department - has been almost twice that of most local agencies. Valuable years of experience are lost every time a police officer leaves, experience that may spell the difference in a life-threatening situation. Tax dollars are also spent to recruit and train their replacements. The overcrowded and ill equipped conditions of the existing police station are definite factors contributing to this turnover rate. A larger, modern police station will allow the City to recruit and retain more qualified personnel which will result in BETTER POLICE SERVICES OF ALL TYPES TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY.

Every person who comes to National City to live, work, shop or recreate deserves IMPROVED POLICE SERVICE. A new, better equipped police building is the cornerstone of that IMPROVEMENT.

GEORGE H. WATERS
Mayor

MARION F. COOPER
Vice Mayor

MICHAEL R. DALLA
Councilman

FRED PRUITT
Councilman

JESS E. VAN DEVENTER
Councilman

VOTE NO! ON PROPOSITION O, a \$6 1/2 million BOND ISSUE, which when paid off with interest, will cost our home owners around \$20 million.

More space is needed by our police. This should be built by the City--not our taxpayers. The Average Income in National City is \$15,000 a year. Our Council pays some of its top employees approximately \$100,000 a year AND HAS WIDENED A STREET AND INSTALLED CURBS, GUTTERS AND SIDEWALKS AT NO COST TO BUSINESS.

The City collected some \$10 million in sales taxes this year. After adopting a \$24 million budget, the Council was left with \$6 million reserve. The City has other resources: Federal, State, County Funds.

NOT ONE BOND ISSUE WAS PROPOSED OR PASSED IN NATIONAL CITY IN THE PAST 22 YEARS. During this time we built two senior towers with 300 units, plus a senior recreation center. We spent \$20 million on streets and drainage, plus \$5 million for sewers, \$3 million on parks, \$1 million for a gymnasium, \$1 million on a golf course, and built three community buildings. We developed: South Bay Plaza, Plaza Bonita, the Mile of Cars and Heritage Square. The point is we did all this, and more, WITHOUT TRYING TO PLACE A BOND ON YOUR HOME FOR YOU TO PAY OFF.

VOTE NO! on this National City Proposition O Bond. Build the Police Facility with City Funds. The Council is considering the TURNKEY PLAN which insures the builder/consultant will get his money without having to go to bid for the job. This builder/consultant will receive a percentage of the cost of the project, approximately \$1 million. THE SITE IS NOT YET CHOSEN.

VOTE NO! ON THIS BLANK CHECK DEAL!

DORIS M. MCKINNEY

KILE MORGAN

DONNA L. DE MOSS

KENNETH P. ATTAWAY

DARRYL GORHAM

Bond

Continued from A-1

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"This city has always, in general, had a small-time mentality. My planning program is that the city is going to be larger. More people bring in more crime," he said. "The argument

is quality of service of your police department. They have a basement, which was started for 33 employees."

In last November's election, a similar bond issue failed to reach the required two-thirds majority. This year, Natividad wants to inform people, make the issue clear, and get people out to vote.

"I hope the people really take a good look at the proposition," he said. "More important is: if you're for or against it — go out and vote. That's why we lost the last one, because we assumed we had the vote."

Ballot: Police chief backs Proposition O

Continued from B-1

This is not the first struggle to build a new police headquarters.

Residents last year defeated a similar bond proposal. The final vote was 56 percent in favor of the measure, which fell short of the required two-thirds majority needed for passage of a general obligation bond, which are paid through property taxes.

In this new confrontation, Councilman Fred Pruitt has switched sides on the issue.

Last year, as a council candidate and a member of the city Planning Commission, Pruitt opposed building a new police station. Earlier this week, the councilman said he opposed the measure last year because the proposed site would have required the demolition of nine single-family homes.

Pruitt said he switched sides knowing that the new proposed site on National City Boulevard across from the Civic Center would make less of an impact, and that the city had exhausted the possibility of building the station with federal funds.

According to Pruitt, passage of Proposition O would now require the relocation of two homeowners, a renter, an automotive business, a used-car lot and a blood plasma center.

The City Council has selected Starboard Development Corp. to build the proposed 43,000-square-foot complex. A 1984 study concluded that the department requires 35,000-square-feet to operate adequately.

Currently, the city's 73 sworn officers are split between two buildings — 15,000 square feet of basement underneath the civic center, and a 4,000-square-foot annex across the street that the city leases for about \$80,000 a year, Hart said.

Among other problems, said Hart, a split police department suffers from breakdowns in communication between detectives and officers who have to trek across a street to piece together cases.

"The public always wanders around trying to find the detective division," Hart said.

But the more pressing problem,

Hart said, lies with the white particle-board walls where two to three people, sometimes six to seven employees, juggle notebooks to find office space. During shift changes, sergeants and officers often line up in a tight hallway, waiting to speak privately in a two-desk room that is shared by seven sergeants.

"It's like directing traffic," Sgt. Frank Chenelle said. "Actually you can't stay in the hallway because it's too crowded. Sometimes when it gets hectic, we'll have three supervisors in the room. It's kind of like take a number."

Tight quarters forced officials to store the department's armory — tear gas guns, gas masks, bulletproof vests, ammunition, shotguns and other items — in a closet.

"Those doors open up and nobody can get through the hallway," Chenelle said. "You can't really work in there."

Trying to conduct a private interview to gather information from a suspect and victims, whether from a theft or a sex crime case, often can be overheard by whoever is in the office, Hart said.

"The difficulty in trying to conduct an interview is that if it inhibits a person in such a way that they don't give full information, it reduces the probability of a successful case closure," Hart said.

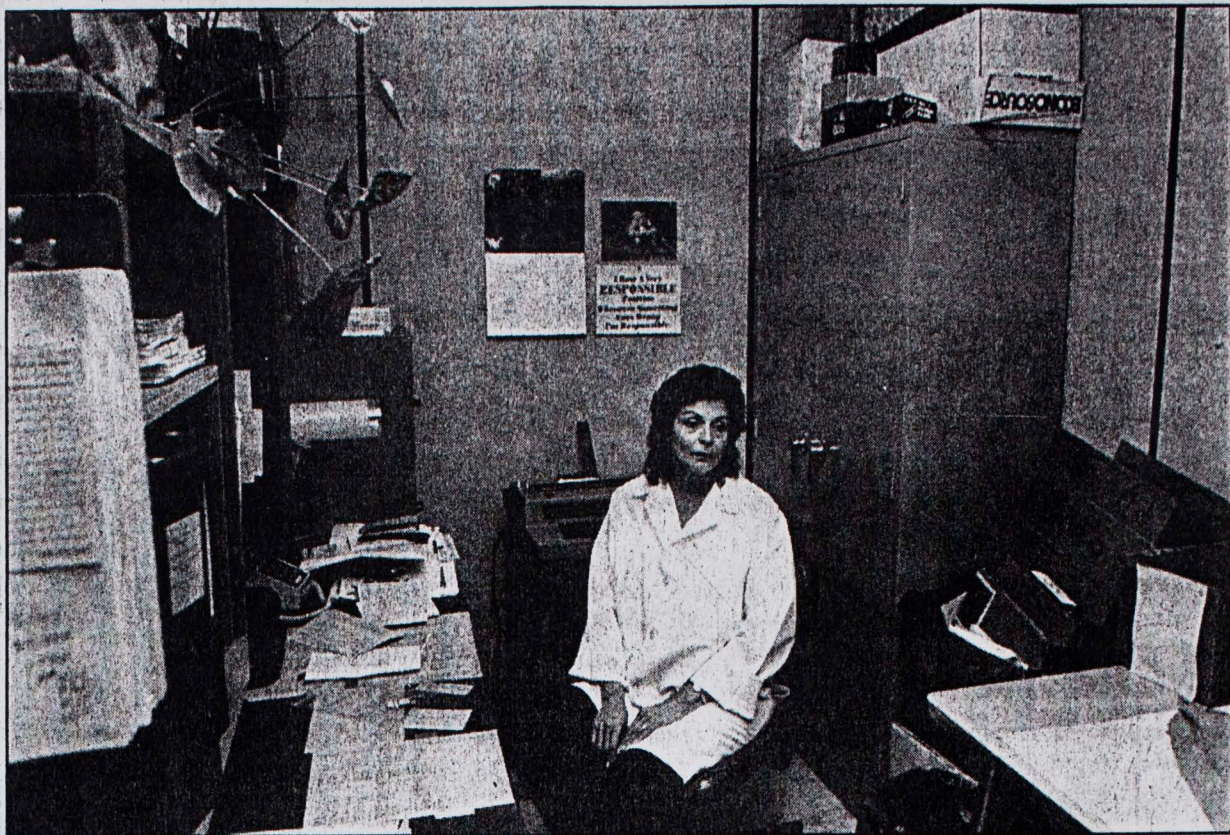
The police headquarters was designed in 1963 to accommodate 33 to 35 employees and approximately 1,500 arrests a year, Hart said.

Slightly over 100 employees, now work for the department, taking care of more than 5,500 arrests a year, Hart said.

If voters pass the measure, Hart said a new headquarters could be built in two years.

Approval of the bond measure would cost property owners 77 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation annually, or approximately \$38.50 per \$50,000 of property value. The length of the bond would be 30 years, said Alex Caloza, city finance director.

Morgan, who served as mayor for more than 20 years, said that under his stewardship the city spent millions on buildings, such as for Plaza Bonita shopping center, without taxing its residents, and said bond proponents are attempting to do that



The San Diego Union/Humberto Ramirez

Betty Felix's office was once a closet in the National City police headquarters.

now. "It's not right to put bonds on people," he said. "If they're going to build it, they need to build it without a bond."

Morgan said the average National City resident earns \$15,000 a year and by the time the bond and its interest are retired, taxpayers will have paid \$20 million to \$25 million.

"It can be built for cash," the former mayor said. If he was leader of the city, Morgan said, he would turn the civic center over to the police department and build a new City Hall.

Nielsen said he is buying a home in National City and has spent nearly \$1,400 in opposition to Proposition O.

Baca said the bond measure goes beyond what most National City residents can afford, and even if residents could afford such a bond the

Committee on Chicano Rights opposes it until changes occur in police leadership.

Baca's committee advocates changes regarding race relations and calls for improved performance and accountability of officers.

He cited a recent incident where three National City police officers chased a burglary suspect the wrong way on a freeway, resulting in damage to two police cruisers and a civilian's truck. A city review board recommended suspending an officer and a sergeant as a result of that incident.

The Citizens for Improved Public Safety, of which the council are honorary chairmen, has spent \$3,104 in its drive for a yes vote on Proposition O.

Mayor George H. Waters said the

city is not rewarding Hart, "We're doing it for the people of this city."

He said he has exhausted all avenues for public support in getting a new police headquarters built, and questioned why the ex-mayor is so adamant about defeating the measure. He said that if Morgan knows how the city can build a police headquarters without using taxpayers' money, he should reveal the formula.

Waters also said he didn't like Hart's comment that if "I don't get my police station I will leave."

"I informed him any more comments to that effect and he would leave," Waters said.

Hart later publicly apologized "to anyone who interpreted my comments as a threat."

Law agencies receive government allocations

Several San Diego area law enforcement agencies have received financial allocations distributed by the federal government to agencies which participated in development of criminal cases resulting in forfeiture of property assets.

The allocations were announced yesterday by U.S. Attorney Peter K. Nunez and Acting U.S. Marshal Rich-

ard W. Cameron.

The largest share, \$92,101, went to the Oceanside Police Department.

Other shares for help in developing local cases were as follows for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 1987:

San Diego Police Department, \$33,950; San Diego County Sheriff's Department, \$80,965; Escondido Police Department, \$10,676; La Mesa

Police Department, \$1,228; El Cajon Police Department, \$4,503; Chula Vista Police Department, \$804.

The funds are shared under the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 which permits allocations of federally forfeited property to state and local agencies that helped in investigations, Nunez said.

Drizzle
Ball D-1

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National
City



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safety awareness and volunteer service programs could be started if the facility was built.

But on Friday, Chicano Rights president Herman Baca brought in a new element when he accused Hart of lobbying a citizen on the job to support Prop. O. Baca called for City Manager Tom McCabe to order Hart to stop using "taxpayer's money and time for passage of Proposition O," dock his pay and instruct other city employees to not politic during working hours.

Please see Hart: A-8

"We have to vote no on this proposition. The alternative of building on our own property has not been looked at," he said. A former San Diego City Council candidate with extensive National City business ties, Nielsen plans to buy a house in the city's Harbison Village housing project.

Nielsen said a new police facility is too costly and out of step with the civic mix of buildings around Kimball Park. The favored site of the prospective developer is across from the Civic Center on National City Boulevard.

Please see Opposition: A-8

Proposition O

Station could be community meeting facility

Alternatives have not been fully explored

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Despite old accusations of racial insensitivity and a new accusation of improper politicking leveled by Chicano activist Herman Baca, National City Police Chief Terry Hart and his officers haven't wavered in their support of Proposition O, the police station bond measure.

In fact, Hart has unveiled a new argument in Prop. O's favor, that a new police station will provide more room for his officers and the community — including minorities — who use the station.

"The new station would allow groups to meet on issues that may not be police related," Hart said, citing the baseball league meetings as an example. "We need a variety of programs for the community other than enforcement activities and want a building so we can do some of these programs."

He said Neighborhood Watch

Ex-mayor Kile Morgan has led the opposition to Proposition O, but other members of the community have their own reasons to reject the \$6.5 million bond measure for a new police facility.

Their concerns include its impact on the poor of National City and the proposed "turnkey" development plan in which the developer, Starboard Development, buys a site, builds on it, then sells it back. The new San Diego Police headquarters was a Starboard project.

Others prefer an alternative to constructing a new city hall and placing the entire police department in the existing Civic Center, as suggested by former Mayor Kile Morgan.

San Diego property manager Warren Nielsen contends a smaller facility with parking can be built as an addition to the current station in the basement of city hall, on the current parking lot grounds.

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Baca said he first heard of the alleged politicking on Wednesday, when he was contacted by Betty Moreno, who rents property on Civic Center Drive where the new station is proposed to be located.

According to Baca, Hart called Moreno on Wednesday, and talked to her for about an hour, lobbying her to support Proposition O. The pro-Prop. O group, Citizens for Improved Public Safety, gave Hart Moreno's name and number, urging him to call her.

Hart could not be reached Friday afternoon, but Mayor George Waters said, "This is a last minute trick to upset Proposition O."

On Thursday, Hart said Baca's earlier complaints about the lack of minority relations in the department could be met with the space provided by a new police headquarters.

Hart said classes for educating officers in minority relations could be held in the building. "We don't have space or training programs now to do that."

Baca said few Hispanic officers are on the force. The chief agreed there is an inadequacy and said three Hispanic officers have been hired.

Many potential Hispanic officers will not apply at the department because of the small work area at the National City station and the availability of jobs in some divisions, Hart said.

To increase the pool of potential officers, Hart would like 40

to 45 active reserve officers to join the force, spending four to five hours per week doing follow-up work on burglaries and other non-line duties.

He said locker, shower and exercise facilities should be provided to the reserves to make the program more attractive.

A \$300,000 savings in salaries could be accomplished if 45 reserves joined the force, equaling the work of eight to nine regular officers, Hart said.

Another program proposed by Hart is a citizen volunteer service program, which would provide clerical support and coordinate neighborhood watch networks for the department under the supervision of an officer.

"They have got to have an office to do their work, not a cubbyhole. They need a private space to work," Hart said. "A volunteer needs to feel like a part-time employee."

Hart said these programs would prevent crime in the city by reducing the potential targets of unlocked doors and windows. A community civilian coordinator would bring any community-police issues or problems to him.

"This will be a building for the people and will not be Terry Hart's station," he said. "The only reason to build a police facility is to improve police service and a lot of people rely on that."

After Hart described some of the potential programs in the building, Sgt. Frank Chenelle, a 26-year veteran of the force described some of the current working conditions.

"I came from the old police station, and this place was a Mec-

ca when I walked in, but we only had 35 officers and three female workers then," he said. "We must have about 100 total personnel now. The city took away so much space from us and we had an increase in manpower."

Chenelle said a hallway in the station is one the worst example of cramped conditions. A stack of reports lined a wall to the rear of the building.

He said officers bump into each other in the main hallway when filing reports in boxes on busy mornings.

A large line-up room to the rear of the building was converted to extra locker room space, eliminating meeting and classrooms, he said. About 50 to 60 lockers are used by officers, with limited change space for them, he added.

"Not many use the two showers, since there is no way of relaxing back there. It's just too crowded and most guys go home to shower," Chenelle said.

A closet is used for a weapons room, where all the department's shotguns, rifles and tear gas are stored. A table where officers clean their guns is in the closet.

"You have to lock yourself in to work there and you can't traverse back and forth in the hall. We repair our own shotguns, so we take them somewhere else, like the weight room," Chenelle said.

Seven sergeants share two desks, while five public service officers share one office. The sergeant said interview and report rooms are also small, and were previously occupied by detectives who were moved to rented office space across the street.

Opposition

Continued from A-1

Nielsen proposes a 20,000 square foot complex for police administration and parking adjacent to the current headquarters. Although he could not give a cost estimate, he said the money saved could be used to buy additional sites for department expansion.

Comparing the time involved for lawsuits and land acquisition for Starboard's plan, Nielsen said his plan could be processed in an equal time span.

Meanwhile, Nielsen revealed in a late financial disclosure statement that he has paid half of a \$1,132 bill for "No on O" signs and still owes \$260 for a *Star News* advertisement.

Barber and long time resident Kenneth Attaway signed the formal argument against the proposition and agrees with Nielsen's plan. "I feel the city could add to the facility and not use bond money. It could be enlarged to the south."

An analysis of the space requirements of the Civic Center done by Ormen Associates of San Diego in 1984 did not recommend an addition, noting it would cut into Kimball Park.

Attaway said the project is feasible, and the conclusion depends on who does the survey and what is intended by those who authorize it.

Those who favor the bond contend it will not hurt low-income households, but Attaway said it will affect some people on Social Security benefits who own homes, through the property tax increase of 77 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The hike will be used to pay off the bonds over their 30-year life.

"Even though they will pay a small amount, it's like taking part of their pension from them," he said.

Proponents of the bond say a 43,000 square foot police headquarters will provide better police protection to the city, but Attaway disagrees.

"There is no way a larger police station will give more protection. The need is for more police officers," he said. "I'm 100 percent behind the police department, but a new station is not necessary."

Although Mayor George Waters claims no state or federal grants are available, Attaway said a local banker offered to sell bonds through the city's redevelopment agency. He said the city would rather push the bond measure before using other sources.

Another signer of the opposing statement is Doris McKinney, former Civil Service Commissioner and aide to ex-Sen. S.I. Hayakawa. She shares many of the same objections as Attaway, but does not like the proposed turnkey plan of Starboard Development.

The firm would bid out work and build the facility for the city and turn it over to the city in 1989, charging \$550,00 for their services. Morgan estimated the fee would be \$1 million.

"The majority of the people don't know what a turnkey plan is; they are in the dark and need to know," McKinney said. "The City Council is trying to do what's right for the city, but are not going about it the right way."

She supports the police and concedes they need more room, but said people are concerned about bonded indebtedness. She said the public has not been told exactly where the station will be among three alternatives and what it will look like. "Nothing is

concrete for the station and city official are saying people should approve a blank check deal."

"If the bond was to fail, do we wait for another? It failed last year. I believe city officials should have a back-up plan if the bond doesn't pass," McKinney said. "I think the city should be exploring other ways of financing. Money is out there."

She recalled her experience as an aide to Hayakawa, saying office workers in Washington have many grant proposals to research.

"Sometimes staff people don't have time to pursue looking for money," she said. Earlier this week, the mayor presented letters from local senators and representatives who said funds were not available for state and federal sources.

As a way to pursue some of these sources, McKinney proposed the formation of select committee and call on Morgan to help.

The Star-News, Sunday, November 1, 1987

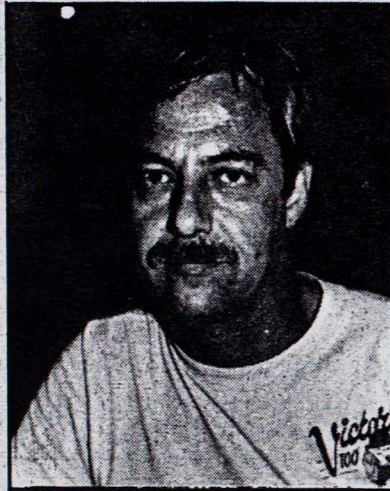


Photo by George McCrory

Olivia Castellanos stands in front of a closet that has had to be converted into a weapons storage room because of the overcrowded conditions. Some materials have to be stored in hallways.

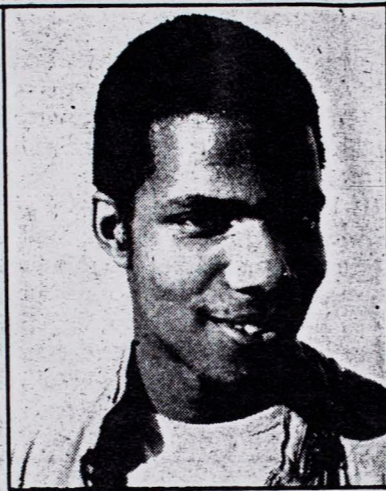
Heard on the street

Do you favor a bond issue for a new police station in National City?



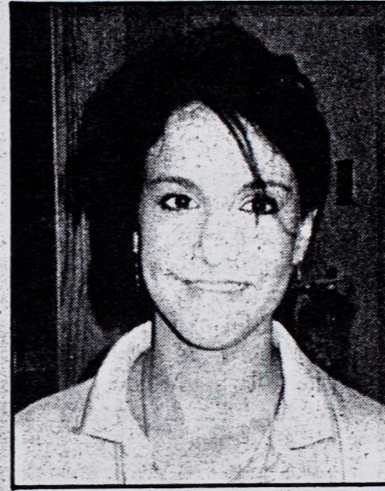
Robert Davis

"We need one. I know some of the police and I have had a chance to see some of the facilities of the station. That station was good about 20 years ago, but because of the population increase, they need a new facility."



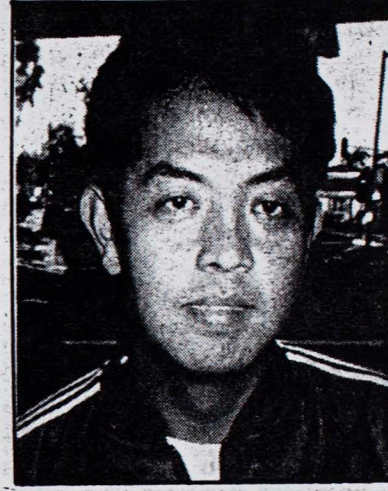
Cass Walker

"I'm for it, definitely. We have 74 police officers and probably the highest crime rate in San Diego County. People don't seem to realize it, but they do need it."



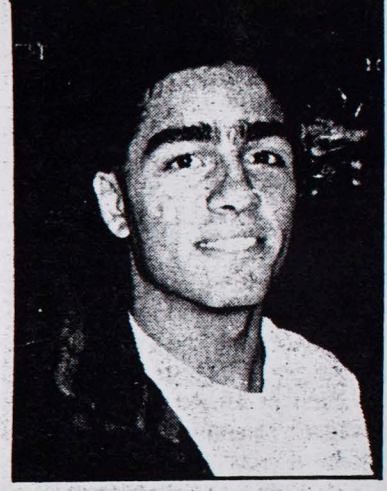
Amy Brown

"Yes, a new station would keep the police happy so more of them will be around. It is not the best area in San Diego. They deserve a new station, I wouldn't want their job, but somebody's got to do it."



Rene Reyna

"I'm in favor of it. I would feel more secure with a new police station in the area."



Eddie Gil

"Yes. National City has an excellent police force. I have been all over San Diego and they are the best police force I've ever encountered. They are always there to help someone in need."

Sunday, May 24, 1987

Hart gets council vote of support

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

The National City Council gave Police Chief Terry Hart a unanimous vote of confidence Tuesday after he denied allegations of brutality against Hispanics by his officers.

Hart conceded, however, that his department would be "more effective" if it had more minority officers, especially Hispanics.

The council also instructed City Manager Tom McCabe to request a response from San Diego Deputy Police Chief Manuel Guaderrama, who last month was quoted in a Los Angeles Times story.

In the Times story, Guaderrama said National City officers had in his opinion used excessive force during an arrest made by both San Diego and National City police.

The council received copies of letters last week from Hart to the Times' editor and District Attorney Ed Miller, who was also quoted in the Times story.

Mayor George Waters said a statement of support for Hart was needed from the council, and the confidence vote was cast.

In the letter to Dale Fetherling, editor of the San Diego County edition of the Times, Hart responded to the story published on April 9. In the story, Arthur Velasco and Bennett Moore claimed National City officers beat them after a stop by San Diego and National City officers.

Hart said that in a personal conversation, Guaderrama denied making any statements that National City officers beat Velasco while he was trying to surrender or that San Diego police reports made similar claims.

Concluding the letter, Hart wrote, "No enforcement policy of this department is based upon the race of the victim, witness or suspect. All enforcement actions are based upon the behavior or suspected behavior of the individuals involved."

"Enforcement actions by any National City police employee that are based on anything but the above will result in some type of disciplinary action, including potential termination."

"In my opinion, this department would be more effective if we had a greater number of minority officers, particularly Spanish-speakers, and therefore, I welcome assistance by any community-based group who can aid us in the recruitment and hiring of such individuals."

In his letter to Miller, Hart said he was disturbed by several comments in the article attributed to him and his staff.

Please see Hart: A4

The Star-News, Sunday, May 24, 1987

Hart

Continued from Page A1

"I know you told me you did not make some of the comments as they were reported in the article," Hart wrote to Miller. "Nevertheless, this article and comments attributed to you will be used as evidence in future situations to establish credibility for spurious complaints against our officers."

In the article, Miller said "an incredible number of citizen complaints have been filed against that (National City) department" and suggested Hart establish a policy to protect people against abuse from police officers.

Hart responded by saying most complaints are filed as a result of an arrest that involved the use of force by an officer. He said the department makes 5,000 arrests a year, with less than five percent involving the use of force.

"On average we receive slightly less than 40 citizen complaints

per year," Hart wrote. "That is certainly not an incredible number."

In the article, an unidentified South Bay prosecutor said National City police were arresting people for being under the influence of heroin who later tested negative, merely exhibited withdrawal symptoms or were simply known addicts.

Hart responded that there were problems initially with testing procedures under the program designed to target drug addicts. The program seeks to enforce laws against being under the influence of heroin or certain other drugs, this includes a mandatory 90-day jail sentence for a conviction.

Hart said his officers had problems with late or conflicting results from the Sheriff's Department drug testing lab.

Later, policemen received drug detection and identification training and a private lab began

analyzing urine and blood samples.

Hart said the results of those actions were that 86 percent of all blood or urine samples taken from narcotics arrestees were positive in 1986 and in 1987 to date.

"When the 11550 Program started, we had a lot of resistance from the courts," Hart said. "They saw it as a large burden. We had a lot of pressure from the District Attorney's office to stop the program."

"The South Bay is a training ground for prosecutors. Some of the people that leave the office take with them the four or five bad cases and perpetuate the bad reputation."

Steve Casey, Miller's spokesman, this week said Miller had read Hart's letter, but did not want to start any "written debate" on the matter. Casey said Miller stands by what he said in the article.

National City assesses bond issue's failure

By Carol J. Castañeda
Staff Writer

NATIONAL CITY - Defeat of a bond measure to finance a new police station sent a clear signal to the City Council that voters refuse to pay more taxes, opponents and proponents said yesterday.

"The public feels that we can do it in-house and they didn't feel they would like to be assessed," said Mayor George H. Waters, who campaigned with other council members in favor of the measure.

If the measure had passed, property owners would have paid 77 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value annually.

Following late night returns Tuesday, Waters vowed to build a new police station by cutting civic programs and by not going to voters again with a similar bond measure.

"The problem doesn't go away because you have an election," he said. Councilman Fred Pruitt said city officials will meet next week to determine how to trim the city budget.

Final unofficial returns on Proposition O showed 1,933 no votes to 1,790 yes votes, or 51.92 percent of the vote to 48.08 percent. Passage of a general obligation bond paid through property taxes requires a

See Defeat on Page B-6

S.D. 07107 11/5/87

Defeat: Opposition to new tax cited

Continued from B-1

two-thirds majority. A similar bill failed last year with 56 percent in favor of the measure.

About 25 percent of registered voters in National City cast ballots.

Although Citizens for Improved Public Safety, of which the council members are honorary chairmen, campaigned heavily for the bond, spending \$3,104 on signs, mailers and postage, it failed to gather 50 percent of the vote.

"I think it's admirable that nobody has a handle on the voters," Pruitt said.

Although proponents received 56 percent of the vote last year, Councilman Mike Dalla said there was no concerted effort as there was this year to pass the bond measure.

Herman Baca, an opponent of the measure and president of the National City-based Committee on Chicano Rights, said the City Council is out of tune with the voters.

"This was a disastrous political defeat for Mayor Waters and the entire political establishment . . .," he said.

A key reason the \$6.5 million bond measure failed, opponents and proponents said, stems from Police

Chief Terry Hart's threat to quit if voters turned down the bond. Opponents said it also stemmed from dissatisfaction with the practices of the National City police and a perception that the city has ample funds to build a new headquarters.

The chief's threat to quit led some members of the community to think the headquarters would be built for Hart, if the measure passed. Waters said he encouraged Hart to publicly apologize about his comments, which Hart later did.

"Our Chief of Police Terry Hart got us off to a bad start," Waters said. "Some people said because he said that, they wouldn't vote for it."

Others agreed that Hart's comment alienated many people.

"I think the quickest way to upset an American citizen is to threaten him," Pruitt said. "A lot of people were alienated early; the issue got lost."

Hart disagreed that his comment caused the bond measure to fail.

"Other people in the community said they understood why I made those comments," the chief said.

"They supported my position. I don't think that was the issue."

The measure failed, Hart said, because residents are against a new tax, especially in light of the recent stock market plunge, and the perception brought on by ex-mayor Kile Morgan that the city has money to build a headquarters without taxing the people.

"I think there is a general perception that there is a lot of money in National City," he said. "I think that comes from statements that the ex-mayor has made touting his success and financial leadership."

Morgan also said he did not believe Hart's comments led to the defeat of Proposition O.

The measure failed because people are against paying more taxes and against satisfying the needs of just one city department, Morgan said. Other departments in City Hall are crowded, he said.

An effort to satisfy all city needs and city officials would have received a better reception at the polls, Morgan said.

Nielsen

Continued from A-1

received from Edco disposal since Oct. 17.

Expenditures of the citizen's committee included: \$1,022 and \$159 for mailers; \$203 for labels; \$2,000 for total postage; \$720 for signs.

A non-monetary contribution of bumper stickers worth \$106 from the Police Officer's

Association was also listed. Capt. Tom Deese said the stickers were bought with association funds.

Nielsen paid for several "No on O" signs around the city last week, spending about \$1,000 of his own money, Campbell said. They were placed by a North County firm.

Nielsen has a different motivation from the rest of the bond opponents, who say taxes should

not be increased to pay off the bond.

He proposes a 20,000 square foot addition to the existing police facility on A Avenue. A three-level parking area below an administrative center would be built under the plan. However, because the idea is still hypothetical, Nielsen does not have a cost estimate.

Mayor George Waters said Nielsen's signs were illegal, with some placed on property where owners did not want them. He said a car dealership at 30th and National objected to the signs on its property.

Citizen's committee chairman Luis Natividad said his group's signs are placed only in yards where residents want them.

Bond issue committees face possible fines

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

A financial statement filed by the committee supporting a police station bond contains an error in disclosure, and a San Diego man opposing the bond has not filed similar statements.

City Clerk Ione Campbell said she will probably not pursue either violation. "I'm inclined to forget about it, unless the City Council tells me to. Then I will have to fine both."

Warren Nielsen, a former San Diego City Council candidate had not filed financial disclosure papers as of Tuesday.

Campbell said Citizens for Better Public Safety treasurer Ron Detzer declared a \$3,000 donation from the National City Mile of Cars, Inc. as being made on Sept. 10, when it was actually deposited on Sept. 25.

Campbell said she waived a September statement since Detzer told her no contributions were received before Sept. 20.

Detzer said the check was deposited on Sept. 25 and the date was a typographical error made by his clerk. He said the funds were not available to the committee until then and bank statements could be checked to confirm the transaction.

According to Campbell, Nielsen and the citizen's committee could each face a maximum fine of \$100.

Nielsen did file a statement of the Citizens for a Better National City Police and Civic Center, located at 616 National City Boulevard. The form was filed on Monday, which said he was organizing as a private citizen against Proposition O.

Campbell said Nielsen explained he was unaware of the filing requirement for private citizens. His next steps are to request a waiver of fines and then file a financial disclosure statement later in the week.

The citizen's group statement listed \$4,609 in total contributions and \$3,104 in expenditures as of Oct. 17.

The \$3,000 Mile of Cars contribution is the largest to the group, while amounts from other small businesses in National City make up the rest. They include: Fierro Construction, \$100; Bob Baker Chevrolet and Isuzu, \$400; H and L Products, \$300; Walter Bowering Accounting Corp., \$100; Pepper Oil, \$250; Vic's Automotive Center, \$100; Cozine's Market, \$100.

Detzer said a check of \$400 was

Please see Nielsen: A-10



Photo by George McCrory

Warren Nielsen leads battle against Proposition O.

Jail

Continued from A-1

president Herman Baca this week formally opposed the proposition because of the impact on low-income families and claimed the new station would be a Taj Mahal for Chief of Police Terry Hart.

The mayor said Baca doesn't like the chief, and didn't like the Hart's comment to the Chamber of Commerce about resigning if the police station wasn't built.

"I personally informed him if there were any more comments to the public, he would be asked to leave. So in return he wrote an apologetic letter to the public," Waters said. "As far as I'm concerned, that's where it ends."

The cost of the police station bonds for most residents would be about \$3 month, he said.

"If Morgan and Baca really believe that homeowners are going to pay the full bill, then why are all of these signs saying 'No on O' on leasing signs in plazas around town? The business people realize they are going to pay the lion's share of taxes," Waters said. "I feel the business people have more of a share because they fill up the city streets and require more police protection."

Morgan said merchants would raise prices on products as a result of higher property taxes, adding that business owners know what they are doing. "They are going to pay through the nose. It's double tax."

He said taxes were cut seven years when he was mayor. "After the stock crash, I think it's the wrong time to think about raising taxes."

Waters said other objections presented to him included spending money on a Louis Camacho

Recreation Center and Morgan Towers Morgan knew a police facility was needed. He added Morgan left him \$20 million in lawsuits, with all of them settled except for two amounting to \$200,000.

"I want the public to know the mayor and the city council are a responsive entity. We are not giving the city away," he said.

Officials question availability of funds

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Responding to former National City Mayor Kile Morgan's claim that outside funding could help build a new city hall and turn the Civic Center into police headquarters, Mayor George Waters produced letters from government authorities saying federal funds are not available for those projects.

Morgan attempted to show that the police station initiative, Proposition O, was unnecessary. The proposition would allow the city to issue a \$6.5 million bond to help finance a \$7.67 million police headquarters.

Morgan claims he can build a new city hall and move police into the existing Civic Center for \$8 to 9 million, funded by state and local sources.

After contacting several senators and congressmen, Waters said no grants were available from government sources. He added that a new city hall would be too expensive, costing about \$15 million.

"The money is not available. I knew this and called on the taxpayers for assistance," he said.

Throughout September and October, Waters received letters from Sen. Pete Wilson and Congressmen Jim Bates and Duncan Hunter saying no funds were available. "Their credibility should be considered before the

ex-mayor's, since he not in office."

Hunter inquired about getting funding from federal sources.

"Unfortunately, the response was not very positive," Hunter said. "None of the 18 Justice Assistance Programs could be used for construction."

A letter from State Sen. Waddie Deddeh mentioned that a Block Grant could be available, but Waters said the amount would probably be only \$500,000.

A spokesperson in Deddeh's office in Sacramento said the grant was from a federal source and the senator gave the recommendation so National City could follow through on it. She did not know when it would be available or of its exact amount.

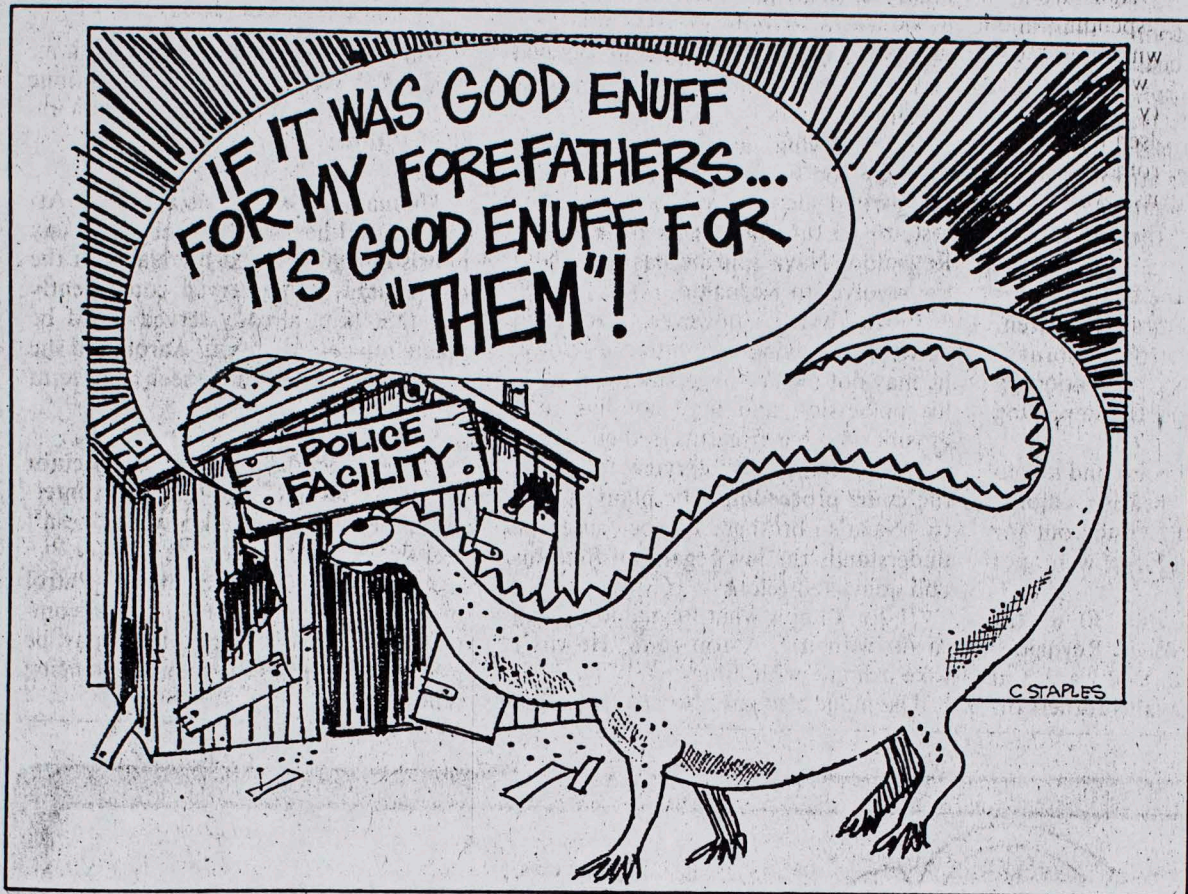
"The reason why the proposition was put on the ballot was for the public to make a decision," Waters said. "Each homeowner will pay \$30 to \$40 per year, but it all depends if we need the full \$6.5 million. The law requires me to say what the facility costs, but the cost could be less."

Waters said Morgan does not want to pay \$11,000 to \$18,000 in taxes on all the property he owns around town. "I own business property on Highland Avenue, and I will pay about \$800 a year."

Committee on Chicano Rights

Please see Jail: A-10

Opinion



Support police bond

Kile Morgan may no longer be mayor of National City, but his ability to perpetuate more than two decades of strong, thoughtful leadership cannot be undersold. During his tenure many improvements were made; he managed to find ways to finance projects even his staunchest supporters thought impossible to complete.

National City has blossomed during the last few years — and with it crime. Today National City has the highest crime rate in San Diego County, the most arrests per capita and the most incidents per police officer. Although the police station has been antiquated for many years, little has been done to alleviate this critical situation.

According to a study done several years ago, approximately 40,000 square feet of additional space is needed. This can be accomplished by one of two methods: Build a new police station and convert the vacated space to additional city hall offices or build a new city hall and consolidate the police department in the existing building.

On November's ballot voters are asked to approve a \$6.5 million bond issue to help accomplish the first alternative. An identical measure last year received majority support, but not the two-thirds vote re-

quired for passage. Kile Morgan endorses the second proposal, claiming a new city hall could be built without placing a general obligation bond on the good citizens of National City.

Although we have the highest regard for Mayor Morgan's opinions, he has refused to disclose the magic funding formula for his plan. Every government official we have talked with says grant money is just not available for any "brick and mortar" improvements. Morgan has apparently let his personal opposition to a new police facility get in the way of National City's progress. This is unfortunate, because Morgan has seldom placed anything above the best interests of the people.

Providing adequate law enforcement for National City should be the top priority of city officials. The need for a new, modern police department far outweighs the need for a new city hall building.

Proposition O, a 20-year bond that would cost 77 cents per \$1,000 property valuation, should be supported. It is time to put political differences aside and consider what is best for the residents of the city.

Chicano group opposed to jail bond issue

Herman Baca

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Chicano rights activist Herman Baca this week urged National City residents to vote against a bond issue for a new police station in Nov. 3 elections and proposed the formation of a police review board.

At a press conference Monday, Baca and his Committee on Chicano Rights formally announced their position on Proposition O, which would allow the issuance of a \$6.5 million bond to finance construction of a new police station in National City.

Regardless of the outcome of the vote, Baca said the committee will call for the creation of a civilian police review board with subpoena powers and the appointment of a blue ribbon commission to investigate the practices and policies of the National City Police Department.

Police Capt. Tom Deese said

he opposed the review board because officers have a right of confidentiality regarding their jobs. "They have a right of privacy in their personnel file," he said. "Police review boards have been formed in recent years, and have found it hard to do what they may have set out to do. It turns out to be a kangaroo court."

Baca wants an investigation of police practices, including training and leadership, and wants a policy to protect people from police brutality.

Deese said the department's policy on complaints against officers takes into account statements from both witnesses and victims when making a decision what disciplinary action to take.

"Police have a responsibility to develop confidence in the community. With the exception of Baca's group, we do have confidence in the community," he said.

If a new police facility is built, Baca said it will not benefit people unless some fundamental changes are made. He said the department should not be rewarded with a \$20 million bond "until long-standing grievances of abuse and brutality" are resolved. He said other policies should also be changed, which govern attitudes, race relations, performance, and other areas.

"Proposition O will not be allowed to become a simple economic vote over the construction of a \$20 million building that National City taxpayers cannot obviously afford, but will be a referendum on Chief of Police (Terry) Hart's incompetent leadership and the racism, unprofessional and inefficient polices of the National City Police Department," he said.

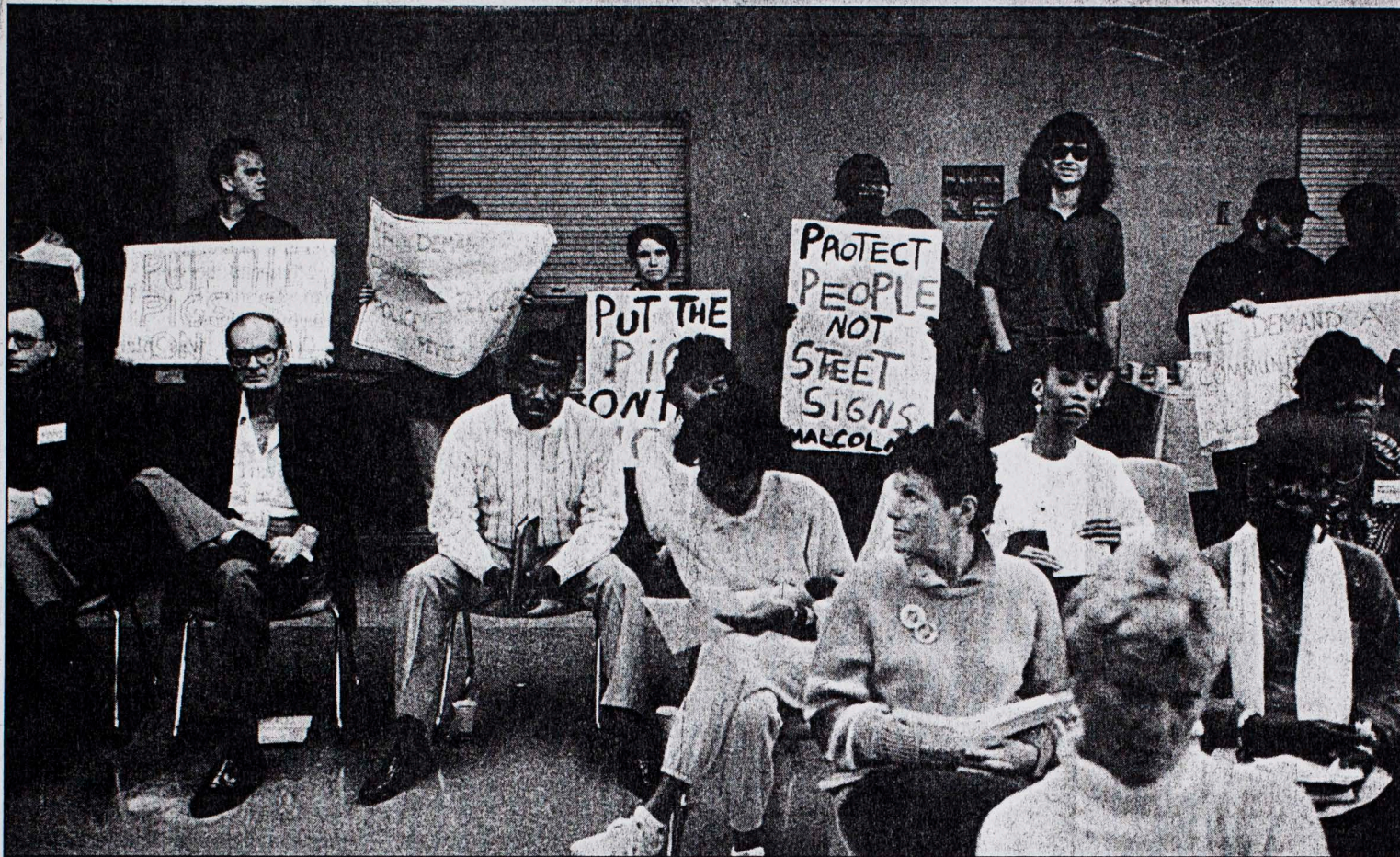
Deese said the station should be built, because the city deserves better police service, not as a reward for the department.

"The city will gain from it. All those who live, work and play

here will be the beneficiaries," he said.

The \$20 million figure used by Baca is a cost estimate by former Mayor Kile Morgan, who has said the interest will reach that amount before the bond is paid off. Bond supporters maintain the bond can be paid off before all the interest accrues.





The San Diego Union/Howard Lipin

About 100 people attended a meeting at the Neighborhood House yesterday — most to voice objections to police.

Police Dept. takes a beating at forum

By Pat Flynn
Staff Writer

A cross section of people relentlessly criticized the Police Department and called for civilian control of the department at a raucous community meeting yesterday in South-east San Diego.

"The problem in this city is a serious problem," said defense lawyer Milton Silverman. "The people have to tell their elected representatives that the people control the Police Department . . . that the Police Department works for the people."

Silverman was part of a panel of lawyers, city officials and others who took part in what was billed as a Police-Community Relations Dialogue co-sponsored by the Human Rights Committee of the California Bar Association and the American Civil Liberties Union.

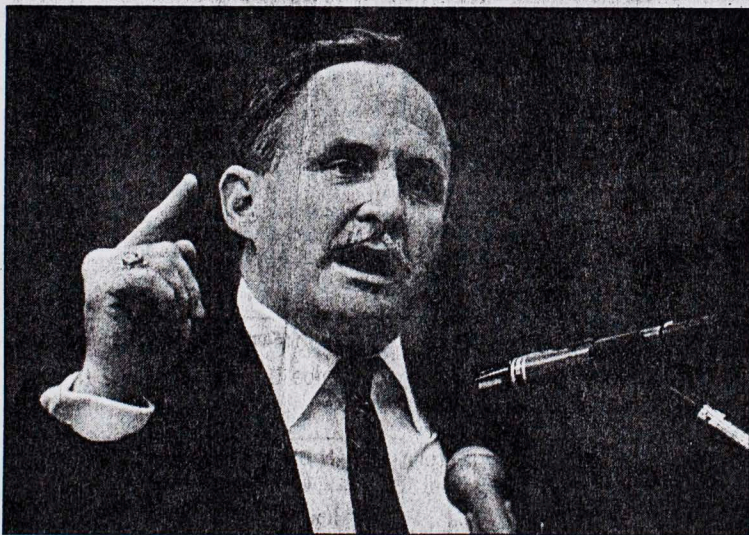
Deputy Police Chief Norm Stampler was the only police official on the panel. Chief Bill Kolender, who was roundly criticized throughout the meeting, had been scheduled to attend but was out of town.

His absence sparked additional broadsides from some of the panelists and some of the approximately 100 people in the audience at the Neighborhood House Community Center.

Silverman and others suggested that the city charter be changed to give elected council members direct control over the department instead of leaving it in the hands of the city manager.

"If the elected representatives of this city do not have the power to control and direct the destiny of the Police Department, then they should be given the power. And if the chief of police is not accountable to the people, then he should be made accountable."

Silverman successfully defended Sagon Penn in two trials stemming from a March 1985 shooting that left one officer dead and another officer



The San Diego Union/Howard Lipin

Attorney Milton Silverman exhorts residents to speak out for reforms in Police Department.

and a civilian wounded. He contended in both trials that Penn, who is black, shot the officers in self-defense after being beaten and taunted with racial epithets.

Silverman said he accepted the invitation to take part in yesterday's meeting because he had been told Kolender would be there. He said he expected to address the police chief face to face for the first time since the trials.

Silverman used the example of Dachau, the infamous Nazi death camp, to warn of the dangers of a government out of control.

"It sits in silent and mute testimony to people who lost control of their police department, who did not stand up and assert control of their police department . . . and allowed themselves to lose their freedoms," Silverman said.

When Stampler attempted to talk about the Police Department's human relations training program, he was repeatedly heckled by members of the crowd.

Among the hecklers were about a dozen members of the People's Tribunal Network and Union del Barrio, who carried signs with messages such as "Kolender out of Town Now" and "Put the Pigs on Trial."

Stampler grew angry at one point. "They are not pigs," he said of police officers. "They are very human beings for the most part."

"Until they come to my neighborhood!" one young man shouted in response. "Then they become pigs."

The catcalls weren't reserved for Stampler, however. Members of the two sign-bearing groups also were critical of other panelists and community organizations that traditionally scrutinize police practices and call for reform.

"The fact is that this whole conference is designed to cover over the issue of police brutality in this community," said Atif Hakin, coordinator of the People's Tribunal Network.

He named organizations such as the Chicano Federation, the National Association for the Advancement of

Colored People, the Urban League and the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association.

"They've got too much invested in their positions and funding to take steps that would alleviate the problem," Hakim said.

George Penn, assistant to City Manager John Lockwood, defended the existing system, including the new civilian police review panel appointed by Kolender and Lockwood.

"You control the city manager, the mayor and, yes, the chief of police," Penn said. As evidence that citizens and elected officials have a role in police oversight, he noted that the Police Community Relations Panel created and appointed by the City Council has had 67 of its recommendations adopted.

The Community Relations Panel is separate from the new civilian police review panel, which will examine police practices. Speaker after speaker yesterday ridiculed the review panel because its members are appointed by Kolender and Lockwood and because of its limited power.

Penn said police brutality will always exist, but promised, "When it does raise its ugly head, we'll deal with it with justice and fairness."

Jess Haro, chairman of the Chicano Federation and a former city councilman, joined others in criticizing the department and calling for an independent civilian review panel. But he also said that elected officials can control the department, even under the city's charter.

"In 1977, the City Council pressured the city manager to either fire the police chief or get his resignation. And (former Chief) Ray Hoobler left," Haro said.

Panelist Fred Scholl, director of legal services for the Lesbian-Gay Community Services Center, was one of the most conciliatory speakers.

"We started at a very hostile point," Scholl said. "But relationships between the gay and lesbian community are now at a pretty good level."

San Diego, Saturday, October 24, 1987

National City police site opposed

By Laura Preble
Tribune Staff Writer

The Committee on Chicano Rights is opposing Proposition O, the \$6.5 million bond measure that would finance construction of a new home for the National City Police Department.

Herman Baca, president of the National City-based committee, voiced the group's opposition to the bond measure, the single municipal issue National City voters will consider on Nov. 3, at a press conference Thursday. A similar measure failed last November when it gained 56 percent of the vote, well short of the two-thirds majority needed to approve a general obligation bond issue.

Baca used the ballot measure as a springboard for criticism of the city's police department, saying that the new facility would reward Police Chief Terry Hart for "incompetent leadership and the racism, unprofessional and inefficient practices and policies that have become inherent within the National City Police Department."

Baca said opposition to the measure would show city officials that citizens want fundamental changes in the operation of the police department, and he said he advocated formation of a "blue-ribbon commission" to investigate police department policies. Baca and the committee have criticized the police department many times in the past, alleging harassment of Hispanics and exces-

sive force.

Baca and his committee see the police-station ballot measure as more of a political than economic issue.

"Hart and several officers have threatened to resign or quit if they don't get their \$20 million Taj Mahal," Baca said. "The fundamental question is that it's not simply an economic question but a political question of how National City is going to treat the majority of its population."

But Capt. Tom Deese, a spokesman for the National City Police Department, said a new police facility should not be viewed as a reward for the police department's work, but as a necessary part of police services. At present, he said, the department has no crime lab and an inefficient system of filing evidence because of the lack of space.

"The new police headquarters will result in better and more efficient services for the whole community," Deese said yesterday.

Responding to Baca's complaints about the department, Deese said that such criticism has been heard from the committee for years. He said Baca had been asked for a list of potential recruits for the police department and suggestions to improve the department, but that "when we ask him for suggestions, we get the run-of-the-mill criticism. He's a complainer, not a doer."

Baca's group isn't the only one opposing the bond issue, however. Former Mayor Kile Morgan

wrote the ballot argument against it.

A group called Citizens for Better Public Safety has been battling for the bond measure.

Luis Natividad, chairman of the pro-Proposition O faction, said that anti-bond activists are wrongly making the new facility a personal issue.

"This has nothing to do with policies or with the police department itself," he said. "It has to do with the ability to provide better services under better working conditions. Hart might not even be here later on. We shouldn't use this as a punishment. You can't mix apples and oranges, it's not a logical thing to do."

Baca said that building the facility would place an undue stress on homeowners in the community, noting that according to the 1980 census, average household income in the blue-collar city of 50,000 was about \$15,000 annually.

The city finance department estimates that a homeowner with property valued at \$100,000 would pay about \$77 annually in additional property taxes if the ballot measure is approved.

According to county property records from August 1986, properties whose value account for about 60 percent of the total \$796 million property value in the city are owned by out-of-towners. That 60 percent, which translates to \$470 million, accounts for 28 percent of the land parcels in the city.

E.T.

Battle lines becoming clear in fight for jail bond proposition

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

10/25/87

With one week left before Nov. 3 elections, opponents and supporters of Proposition 0 are letting their positions be known.

If the proposition is approved by two-thirds of those casting a ballot — and there are 15,000 registered voters in National City — a \$6.5 million dollar bond for a \$7.67 million police station would be issued.

The battle lines are set between two factions. Supporters of former Mayor Kile Morgan are against the bond, while a community group led by former City Council candidate Louis Natividad supports it.

Mayor George Waters and his council all favor a new police station, and have been working with Natividad's Citizens for Improved Public Safety group.

Opponents have not formally organized, but Morgan's supporters include ex-council candidate Daryl

Gorham, former Civil Service Commissioner Doris McKinney and Donna DeMoss.

Natividad said the public needs to get away from the personality clashes between the mayor and ex-mayor and get familiar with the need for a decent police facility and its cost.

"By making this a personality thing, it deviates from the issue of if we want to pay a few extra cents for the station," he said. "My interest is for what is best for the city. I might agree with him on

some policies, but not on this issue."

Morgan claims a new city hall should be built and the police department consolidated in the present Civic Center. He has said the taxpayers in the city should not be burdened with more tax, while bond supporters contend state and federal grants are not available to fund construction.

In an interview Thursday, the ex-mayor said he could get the grants for his city hall, but wouldn't let city officials use them for a police facility.

"The reason I wouldn't let them do it is they would use the funds to build the police station. If they want my advice on building a city hall, I'd show them how to do it," he said. "I didn't have the votes to do it when I was mayor."

Councilman Mike Dalla said many grants would not be available, and cutting into city funds for the headquarters would hurt availability of basic services.

"Because of its low-income popula-

Please see Bond: A-4

Bond

Continued from A-1

tion, the city provides many services at little or no cost. The alternative is to raise money over time and reduce many of these low-cost services. We will not do that if we can avoid it," he said.

According to Morgan, the station will cost \$20 million for voters over a 30 year period before the bonds are paid off. He proposes a city hall for under \$8 million could be built if the job went out to bid.

Maintaining that a police facility should be built now, Natividad said waiting to build it would cost \$12 million. He said some of the bond could be paid off before maturity by a grant applied for at a later time.

The estimate of the tax rate

levied on property owners in the city to fund the bond is \$.07766 per \$100 assessed valuation. In a pro-bond brochure, supporters say a residence with an assessed value of \$50,000 will pay about \$37 per year. A business property worth \$10 million would pay about \$7,400 annually toward the bonds.

Dalla said businesses comprise half of the assessed value of property in the city.

"The biggest portion of the bonds will be paid by business, income and industrial property," he said. "Homeowners will pay the smallest portion of it."

With the average income in National City near \$15,000, Morgan contends the extra property tax will be an burden on

low-income households, particularly on apartment dwellers.

"People in apartments would be hit pretty hard by the bond. It won't raise rents \$5; the bond will raise rents \$15 to \$30," he said.

Dalla said the tax would be inexpensive compared to the cost of some basic items, like the cost of a newspaper or sodas over a year. He said the quality of police service would deteriorate if a new station wasn't built, and pondered some of the other consequences.

"Can the community at-large afford not to have quality police protection? Will people want to live in an apartment unit if there is crime nearby?" he asked. "It's a low income community, but all people are victims of crime."

According to Morgan, voters in National City never passed a bond during his 20 years as mayor, but Dalla noted four bonds for Plaza Bonita and downtown development were sold during those years. The bonds did not require voter approval since they were authorized under a parking authority and the Community Development Commission, he said.

The proposed 43,000-square-foot police building would be built by turnkey developers, who would turn over the facility to the city in 1989.

Although three sites are still under consideration, a location across from the Civic Center on National City Boulevard is preferred by Starboard Development.



Mayor George Waters

By Daniel L. Muñoz

National City - Herman Baca, Chairman of the Committee on Chicano Rights, appeared before the National City Council Tuesday night and demanded that the City Council go on record and pass a motion requesting Governor Deukmejian to order the appropriate State and County agencies to immediately investigate Pacific Steel Industry (PSI) scrapyards on the Westside of National City. He further demanded that the City seek the immediate closure of PSI to protect the residents of the Westside from further danger presented by the PSI scrapyards operations.

Herman Baca, members of the Committee on Chicano Rights, and over 20 residents of the Westside, whose lives were endangered by the second fire that has occurred at the Pacific Steel Yard in the past year, appeared before the City

Council because of concern that the City was moving too slow in carrying out its primary responsibility of providing for the health, welfare, and safety of the residents of National City.

"PSI scrapyards are a ticking time bomb just waiting to explode," Baca told the National City Council. "This is the second time that the scrapmetal yard has burst into flames emitting highly toxic fumes into the surrounding community. The first fire in May of '86 caused the immediate evacuation of over 2,000 residents of the Westside. Though there were no deaths, 13 residents were hospitalized including two police officials, from the noxious-toxic fumes.

The Mayor and City Council were requested to take steps to eliminate this human hazard from the city. At that time nothing was done. . . We now have a second serious incident

National City Scrapyard Called A "Ticking Time Bomb" By CCR Chairman!

at the PSI yard. A second fire broke out August 16, in the flux heap emitting potentially dangerous toxic fumes into the immediate residential areas. This time, the evacuation did not proceed orderly or in a professional manner. Peoples' lives were placed in needless jeopardy because of the sloppy, unprofessional functioning of the Police Department," said Baca.

David Avalos, whose family home is in the Westside, echoed Bacas criticisms of the evacuation. "My sister has a brain damaged child who's life was needlessly placed in danger by the failure of the City to professionally carry out the evacuation plan. The toxic fumes could have killed my nephew who has difficulty breathing without assistance. They were not notified to evacuate thought they live on Cleveland street near the PSI."

Avalos also charged the Police Department with unprofessional conduct, especially Officer C. Davies of the National City Police Department, who refused to allow Avalos to go to the aid of his elderly parents. They also were not notified to evacuate and did not realize the danger they were in.

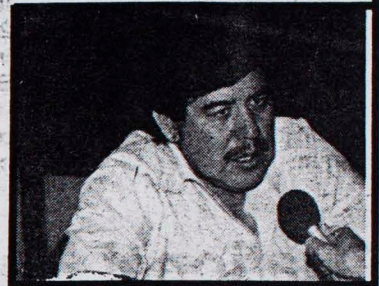
Numerous residents of the area, such as the Rubio and Godshalk families who were not evacuated or realized the danger posed by the fire, were present to testify and request the closure at the PSI yard.

"These people came to our

organization," stated Baca "because the City was not responding to their fears and demands for the closure of the PSI scrapyards. This situation has been going on for a number of years," Baca told *La Prensa*. "I can't understand why an organization such as the Sierra Club which has managed to hold up construction of the Chula Vista Freeway because one or two birds are endangered has not shown the slightest concern over the yard which poses a worse environmental threat to humans and the ecology than the freeway. Yet, it has not once raised its voice. Are people less important than Terns?" he asked.

Mayor George Waters informed those present, that the City had already taken all the action that it could under its municipal authority. "We have already sent letters to the County Health Dept. asking that the hazardous-toxic materials inspection teams come to PSI and investigate. They recently have been fined \$85,000 for illegally storing hazardous materials at its Cleveland Avenue scrapyards," he said.

"We don't understand what the Mayor is taking about," commented Baca. "It is the city that licenses PSI to operate. What it issues it can deny. How many dead bodies does the Mayor or the City Council want before it steps in? It is quite clear that certain members of the National City Council are



negligent in their responsibilities to the residents of the City."

The Committee on Chicano Rights asked that the city make a motion to contact Governor Deukmejian and have him order an immediate investigation, by all appropriate state agencies to investigate the PSI yard and to go on record as seeking the closure of Pacific Steels Industries. No motion was made at Tuesday's meeting!

"We will not rest until action is taken" said Baca. "The Committee on Chicano Rights will not let these people down. If this City Council wishes to stand on the side of PSI and endanger the lives of our people that is something they will have to live with. We are going to take steps to seek action from the County. We will also be contacting Senator Art Torres, Chairman of the Toxic and Public Safety Management committee.

We find it unacceptable that the city feels it has done everything. Some ones interest, other than the citizens, are being protected here," concluded Baca.

Police-station bond issue gets second try at polls

By Laura Preble

Tribune Staff Writer

National City officials are hoping the second time is the charm for a \$6.5 million bond issue, Proposition O, earmarked to finance construction of a police station.

Voters on Nov. 3 will face the same proposal they rejected one year ago, and proponents hope increased publicity and a year's worth of discussion on the issue will help it gain the two-thirds majority neces-

43,000-square-foot facility. "Any time you ask the public to assume an additional cost, it's difficult. But based on the fact that there is a community group actively involved and they are publicizing the need, and that the council and mayor are 100 percent behind it as opposed to last year, I'm very optimistic that it has a significant chance."

"What we really need to do is build a City Hall or a police station without taxes," said ex-Mayor Kile Morgan, who opposes the bond measure. "The council members don't have space to run around. The police talk like they're the only ones crowded. If the police took over City Hall and we built a new Civic Center, we could satisfy 15 departments instead of just one."

The police building would be built on one of three sites under council review. Each of the sites is within a block of the Civic Center on National City Boulevard.

Finance Director Alex Caloza said the bond would mean an average of \$74 per year for a home assessed at \$100,000. The bonds would be retired over a 30-year period.

Please see POLICE: B-5, Col. 4

More Metro South news on B-5

sary for passage. National City has 14,933 registered voters.

This year's campaign is substantially different from the subtle effort that accompanied last November's police bond issue. Supporters think that increased community participation and publicity will turn the tide in their favor.

"I think it will make a big difference, but it's still an uphill battle," said Terry Hart, chief of police and a vocal supporter of the proposed

CIT.

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10/29/87

Police chief sees Prop. O as blessing

By Carol J. Castañeda
Staff Writer

NATIONAL CITY — Betty Felix works inside what was once a storage closet.

The 7-foot-by-8-foot work area inside the National City police headquarters comes equipped with a tall metal file cabinet, a small blue kitchen table where charcoal powder is spread to collect fingerprints, seven clipboards that track records, a typewriter table, a fan and a 6-foot-long by 30-inch-wide wood desk stacked with police manuals and boxes that store evidence.

"It's very difficult at times working here," said Felix, an evidence technician, of her office. "We have to

improvise to make it work."

Expanding the department is something Police Chief Terry Hart seeks to do through passage of Proposition O — a \$6.5 million bond measure that, if it wins approval Tuesday by two-thirds of the voters, would help pave the way for a new \$7.6 million police headquarters.

The remainder of the needed money would come from city funds.

But Hart and the City Council face stiff opposition from former Mayor Kile Morgan, the Committee on Chicano Rights and the Citizens for a Better National City Police/Civic Center, which is being independently spearheaded by businessman Warren A. Nielsen.

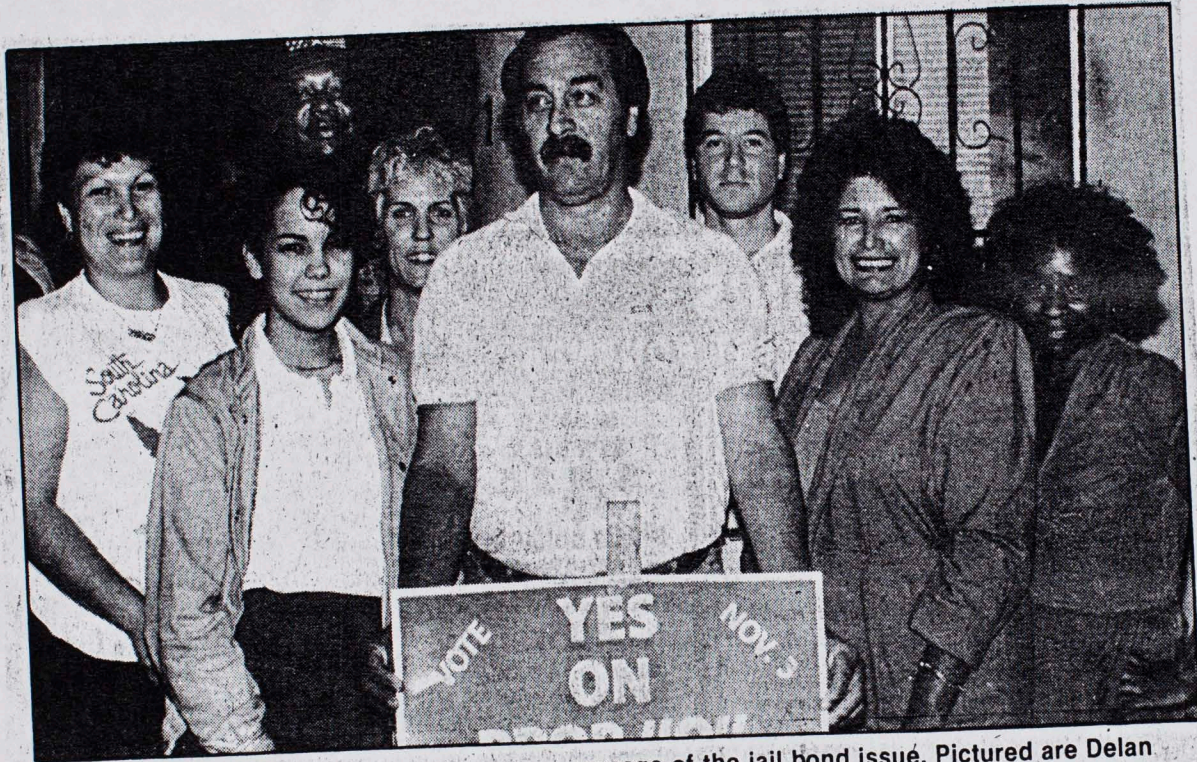
Nielsen ran unsuccessfully for San Diego City Council in last month's primary.

City officials contend the department has outgrown the existing police headquarters by threefold and is in desperate need of more space.

Morgan and Nielsen agree that more space is needed, but not at taxpayers' expense.

Herman Baca, president of the National City-based Committee on Chicano Rights, criticizes the police department and says fundamental changes are needed before National City residents reward Hart with a "Taj Mahal."

See Ballot on Page B-3



Luis Natividad, center, and neighbors urge passage of the jail bond issue. Pictured are Delan Natividad, Elena Ochoa, lat Natividad, Grover Thomas, Alice Giridley, Gertha Thomas and Sandy Carrillo.

Source of funding major obstacle to overcome Council still hopes to build police department

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

National City police officials are confident that a new police station will be built, despite the failure of a bond issue intended to fund it.

A number of factors still remain to be decided, such as determining where the money will come from and what role former mayor Kile Morgan will play.

Despite the uncertainty, Hart said he and his officers were encouraged by

Mayor George Waters and the City Council, who indicated they would still push for a new building after last week's election. Proposition O, which needed a two-thirds vote to pass, failed to get even a majority.

Hart said he feels very optimistic and will not be leaving because of negative conditions in the department, adding his officers would like to see progress.

"If construction can begin in four to six months, it will be physical proof that the future is brighter than it was before," Hart said.

He said officers were initially disappointed over the failure of the bond, but became more hopeful and optimistic after hearing Waters' comments and individual conferences with them. Reactions from policemen seemed to confirm the chief's observations told the people they will continue to work.

"We have looked at the bond issue and now our primary interest is providing police service to this town. We have too much pride in ourselves to do anything else than the best," said Capt. Tom Deese on Friday.

On Wednesday, the mood was somber around the station, and officers were disappointed.

"I'm upset over people not realizing what we need. I have been in the department for 25 years, and I have never been as crowded in the last five years," said Sgt. Frank Chenelle. "We will go along and do our job. We've been kicked in the face before."

Proposition O was favored by 48 percent and opposed by 52 percent of those voting. If passed, it would have allowed the city to issue bonds to help finance a

\$7.67 million police headquarters.

Waters said after the election that the council would meet to discuss funding alternatives, which could include taking away money from city surpluses. Hart said the council would probably meet on the matter in two or three weeks, but expected no action for two to three months.

"Evidence is clear that there is a need for a new police station, which was even shown by the opposition," Hart said.

Please see Bond: A-6

Bond

Continued from A-1

He added that the only group not supporting the bond was the Committee on Chicano Rights, which maintained the department did not deserve a new headquarters because it had racial biases.

Hart said voters did not favor Proposition O because of reactions to recent economic situations and circumstances, referring to the stock market fall on Wall Street. He gave examples of other propositions asking for increased taxes not passing, such as the Sweetwater School District bond.

Meanwhile, Morgan shared his comments about the outcome of the election and agreed on some issues, but maintained a hard-line stance his idea to build a new civic center.

He said the bond failed because the people did not want to be taxed, not because of Hart's threats to leave. "Hart is the best

police chief we've ever had," he said.

Morgan's supporters suggested he become a city consultant to obtain funds for a new city hall and consolidating the police department in the Civic Center.

Mayor Waters balks at the idea, and even Morgan has some reservations. "I wouldn't like to be a consultant. There's too much confusion down there," Morgan said.

Morgan has said money is available from other sources than the city's budget, but Hart contends Morgan is not influential enough to get the money on his own and only the city can compete for federal funds.

Morgan said voters should decide in another election if they want a new police station or a new city hall. He advised city officials to heed election results and not build a new facility. "By not getting a majority, it will be a dangerous situation for the council."

STANBWS
9/20/87

Garry Edwards, Publisher
Dale Morton, Managing Editor

Letters to the editor

Greatest need is a new police station

I recently made some comments at a public meeting about myself and other officers who would resign from the police department if a new police building is not built. Some people, including your paper, characterized those comments as "threats" to the voters; other people hearing the same comments interpreted them as expressions of how urgent and desperate the need for a new police building has become.

The purpose of my letter is to publicly apologize to anyone who interpreted my comments as a "threat" and to offer a brief explanation as to what my message was intended to mean. Therefore, to those who interpreted my comments as threats — I'm sorry. I did not intend them to be.

Those who know me personally know that I do not believe the voters in this town will build a new police building just because the chief of police said he will resign. The police department and the service it provides to the people of this community is *far more important* than any one chief of police. I replaced the chief before me — I know someone will replace me when I go, no matter what way I go.

The purpose of my comments was to simply illustrate how critical the need for a new police building has become over the last few years. Too many people

believe the "need" for a new police building is only one year old. This is a reasonable assumption given that most citizens only became aware of the issue at last year's general elections.

The truth is that the "need" for a new building is already almost four years old. (Yes, the city council and city management began studies and discussions about the need for additional space for the police almost four years ago!)

If the bond measure is approved in November, it will still take two years to build and occupy the building. Therefore, it will have been six years since we started on a program to relieve the cramped and obsolete conditions of our present police building and to build a new building that will result in *improved police service for all people of this community*.

Surely, people can understand how and why their police officers and I have felt frustrated because we have not been able to convince enough people of the *urgency* of the need to build a new police building. For whatever reasons, our efforts have not been successful.

We desperately need the help of the citizens of this community. We need each of you to tour *your* police building and make up your own mind. If you become convinced, we need you to convince your neighbor, your friend or your relative. A police building is a community building and it requires community participation.

This year, just as last year, the group opposing this bond measure is led by ex-Mayor Kile

Morgan. No one who has lived, worked, shopped or recreated in National City during the last 20 years has to be reminded of the good things that Mayor Morgan accomplished for this city during his reign and, therefore, you will not hear me making negative comments about him and his past accomplishments, except on this one issue — the need to build a new police building and not a new city hall.

The opposition has publicly stated — "More space is needed by our police." This statement is the opening sentence in the second paragraph of their argument. Please read it; you'll see it for yourself.

The opposition implies that there are state and federal funds available to build the police building. Ask yourself one question — If that were true, why didn't Mayor Morgan obtain these funds during the last two and one half years of his administration when the need for building a new police building was being reviewed, discussed and decided?

The answer is very simple — there are no such funds. If there were, the city council on a 4-1 vote would have built the police building two years ago!

I beg every National City citizen to please get involved in this issue. Review the facts; make up your own mind and vote according to your own perception of the needs of this community. Do you need improved police service in this town or a bigger city hall?

TERRY HART
Chief of Police
National City

Plans

Continued from A-1

In the Starboard proposal, the city and its Community Development Commission would join under the Joint Powers Act in order to obtain more tax increment funds after a bond issue passed.

Besides bond revenue and taxes, Saunders said, federal funds and \$100,000 already in the city budget would finance the project. An additional \$550,000 city contribution over several years would cover any fixtures and furnishings needed for the station.

He said the city would not be liable for any extra costs incurred, but any savings would revert to the city. The construction would bid out, with minority-run companies having 20 percent participation.

"We don't want the city to be put in a box as far as what they're going to pay," Saunders said.

Starboard would collect a 10 percent fee for privately developing and then turning over the facility to the city, or about \$765,500. Payment by the city would be subject to its acceptance and noting completion of work, expiration of a lien period, and an audit of Starboard by Price,

Waterhouse and Co.

In the architect's plans, the new 42,000 square foot station would be three levels, with a port on one side to drop off prisoners. A pistol range and modular office cubicles would also be included.

Bolint said presenting a bond issue to the public would require four out of five council members voting favorably on the issue. They must call for the issue before July 28 to be on the November 4 ballot.

Starboard developed a similar turnkey plan for the San Diego Police Headquarters.

Supporters of bond form organization

STAR NEWS
12/1/77

By George McCrory
Staff Writer

Supporters of the \$6.5 million bond issue for a new police station have organized and raised about \$3,500 for their cause.

The opposition, led by former Mayor Kile Morgan has gone into the community, shook hands, and talked over issues with the public in their homes and on the streets. Morgan and his supporters have not yet organized or raised any money.

Chairman Luis Natividad of the Committee for Better Public Safety in support of Proposition O said he has 27 people in his group, which organized Sept. 9 at Granger Music Hall.

The committee will meet weekly, planning the strategy for a successful passage of the proposition in November, which would

help finance the proposed \$7.67 million station.

Natividad said each member has brought in a list 20 names who can be noted as supporting the bond. Telephone campaigns, flyers, lawn signs, bumper stickers and buttons are among ways the committee plans to get across its message.

The group has set a \$5,000 funding goal, with most of the contributions coming from the Mile of Cars. The California Fair Political Practices Committee has been notified of the contributions, with total disclosure figures to be given later this week.

Mayor George Waters said he has helped to raise money for the effort and is optimistic about the passage of the bond issue.

Please see Bond: A-6

Bond

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"All I am is a kind of bystander. My job is to help them raise money," he said. "I'm hearing mostly positive comments and I think it has a good chance of passing."

Natividad said his supporters a mixture of business owners and residents, with police representatives and all the City Council on his side. However, police personnel can only campaign off duty and only two council members can meet at a time.

Former Mayor Kile Morgan has former City Council can-

didate Daryl Gorham on his side in opposition to the bond, and may form a committee to fight it.

The opposition has said a police station should be built without a bond. They propose consolidation of the police department in the Civic Center and construction of new city hall.

"To put \$20 million on the backs of the people when we are paying some city workers \$100,000 is incomprehensible. It's just not fair," Morgan said. He added city employees like the city manager and attorney make

\$100,000 per year, which includes salaries and benefits.

Morgan bases the \$20 million figure on an estimate of the \$700,000 to \$900,000 yearly interest the city will have to pay on a 30 year bond.

Gorham said he "is 100 percent" against the measure, and was also opposed it in last year's elections. He is also trying to set up the Committee for a Citizen's Forum with Morgan, a general political group concerned with many issues.

"We will have a lot of clout

and will not target our efforts. We feel the council is not responsible," he said. He plans to run for council in 1988.

Gorham has also talked to many people in the community, including many prominent business owners.

"Just by talking to people you can get a lot done," he said. "We don't have the power they have, but I've talked to as many homeowners as I can.

"The average income in National City is \$15,000. We just cannot be taxed any more. Many

people go without the last three or four days of the month. My indication is that the people of National City can't afford a new station," Gorham said.

Natividad argued the city deserves quality police service and the community can afford it, noting the increases in crime since the present station was built in 1966.

"This city has always, in general, had a small-time mentality. My planning program is that the city is going to be larger. More people bring in more crime," he said. "The argument

is quality of service of your police department. They have a base-ment, which was started for 33 employees."

In last November's election, a similar bond issue failed to reach the required two-thirds majority. This year, Natividad wants to inform people, make the issue clear, and get people out to vote.

"I hope the people really take a good look at the proposition," he said. "More important is: if you're for or against it — go out and vote. That's why we lost the last one, because we assumed we had the vote."

Letters to the editor

10/1/87

STARNEWS

Officers in chase should be punished

If ever bad judgment was used in a highspeed chase it was Sunday, Sept. 20, when National City police chased a car thief suspect up the wrong way on a freeway transition. Miraculously, no one was seriously injured or killed when a truck entering the ramp met the police head-on, creating a

pile-up.

The victim in the truck, Mr. Powell, is most certainly lucky to be alive. Had he been driving a compact car, he may not have survived such a spectacular crash. Also, had it been a weekday morning, more motorists would have been involved and the results could have been disastrous.

The first question that comes to mind is, why wasn't San Diego Police or Highway Patrol called in immediately to intercept the suspect? Was the NCPD more preoccupied with making their "collar" than

allowing a suspect to escape?

Obviously, the safety of innocent motorists was not a priority. This was a callous, total disregard for public safety.

This kind of irresponsible act should not go unpunished. All five police officers should be suspended immediately pending investigation and those causing the accident fired. To do less would be to condone this kind of practice and subject future motorists to further danger.

ROBERT L. MARTINEZ
Co-Chairman Coalition for
Law & Justice
San Diego

★Police

Continued From B-1

Last year's police station bond issue received majority approval — 56 percent of the vote — but not enough to pass. During that election, council and mayoral candidates vying for three different seats disagreed about the wisdom of financing the project with general obligation bonds. This year, proponents say a united council may give voters the confidence needed to pass the bond measure.

"It was obvious last time that people running for office were opposed to the funding process," Hart said. "But almost everyone running agreed that there was a need for additional space in the Police Department."

This year, all five council members signed the ballot argument in favor of the issue. Ex-Mayor Morgan helped pen the opposing argument.

"There is one primary reason to build a new police building — to improve the quality of police services delivered to this community," reads the supporting argument. "The present police station is located in the basement of City Hall and was designed in 1963 when the Police Department had about 33 employees. ... A larger, modern police station



will allow the city to recruit and retain more qualified personnel, which will result in better police services."

Proponents note that National City has the next-to-smallest police station in the county, larger only than Coronado's. While space has remained minimal (some of the department's employees are now housed in 4,000 square feet of leased space across the street from the main police station), supporters point out that the volume of reported crimes has increased 312 percent since 1963, when the police facility was built.

Opponents, including former Civil Service Commissioner Doris McKinney, Donna DeMoss and ex-council candidate Darryl Gorham, agree that space is needed by the Police Department, but not at the cost of higher taxes.

"I don't think the taxpayers need an extra tax," Morgan said. "There's no use saddling our people with an extra tax. They need every dime they've got, and the city has more money coming in than it ever has had."

The anti-Proposition O ballot argument notes that "not one bond issue has passed in National City in the past 22 years."

Morgan and those in his low-profile anti-Proposition O camp contend the city has enough money to build a new facility without levying additional taxes. Supporters of the bond measure say there is no extra money in the city budget, and that without the bond, the police headquarters would be built at the expense of

much-needed public programs and services that would be cut back to pay for it.

The faction against the proposal is not as formally organized as the citizens committee supporting it. Citizens for Better Public Safety, chaired by ex-council candidate Luis Natividad, has raised money from businesses and residents to finance a lawn sign and mailing campaign to generate support.

"The police bond went on the ballot last year and failed to get 66 percent of the vote because people took it for granted that it would pass," Natividad said.

"I've noticed that the thinking of the city is very small. We have small parking lots, a small plaza, a small pier. I don't like that. Why can't we think of bigger things? We have to take our lab work to Chula Vista's police lab. Our Police Department is in two different places. ... There's no question in my mind that 90 percent of the people favor it. I feel it is a question of whether people are informed or not," Natividad said.