

# VEP NEWS

\*\*JANUARY 1980\*\*

REPRESENTING OVER 2000 HOMEOWNERS IN VISTAPARK,  
ENCORE, ECHO VALLEY, PARKVIEW VALLEY, AND BLOSSOM HEIGHTS

The next meeting of the VEP Homeowners Association will be 7:30 p.m. Monday, January 28, 1980, at Mercury Savings & Loan, located on Blossom Hill Road at Pearl Avenue (next to Angels). Everyone is welcome.

## AGENDA

- \*\* Brief Business Meeting.
- \*\* Guest Presentation:  
Bruce Freeland and Eleanor Young,  
Santa Clara County Planning Dep't.  
(See Story Below)

### VEP TO HEAR THE FACTS OF 1990 TRANSPORTATION FIASCO IN S.C. COUNTY

In past meetings, our membership heard from regional (ABAG/MTC) planners regarding plans for transportation improvements in the Santa Clara Valley. Last March the County Board of Supervisors and 14 of the 15 Santa Clara County cities (including San Jose) endorsed a plan that charts transportation expenditures through 1990. That plan was based upon recommendations from the Santa Clara Valley Corridor Evaluation (SCVCE).

Our meeting on January 28th features a presentation by Bruce Freeland and Eleanor Young, members of the Santa Clara County Planning Department. They will share a more local perspective in discussing a county report that predicts our transportation future based on the assumption that most of the SCVCE recommendations are implemented by 1990. Bruce and Eleanor participated in writing this report which has been the eye of a storm of controversy since its publication last August.

Their frank report is undoubtedly the most accurate and terrifying statement of our transportation dilemma issued by any government bureaucracy to date. Unlike the mildly worded SCVCE, it predicts a transportation fiasco that has every major road and thoroughfare in our county jammed beyond capacity, with traffic flows spilling over onto neighborhood streets. "No part of the urban area will escape impacts of growing traffic congestion," they say.

Depending upon the willingness of people like us to change our travel habits, a no-cost solution to this dilemma may be within our grasp. Unless you are satisfied with the possibility of a total failure of our transportation system in the near future and its impact on our lifestyles, you'll want to attend to discuss this solution with us. Be there!

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This issue of V.E.P. NEWS is a very important one to those of us who serve you as officers in the organization. We have prepared a survey which is included in the middle of this newsletter; we are asking all our readers, and especially every member of V.E.P., to take a minute or two and fill it out, and mail it back to us or better yet, bring it to our next meeting on January 28. Note that there are spaces to record responses by both husband and wife, as appropriate. We really need to get a big response from this survey, so please don't put it down, but fill it out now as you are reading your NEWS.

We have rescheduled the program set for last November, primarily because there was a communication problem and the lights were turned off at our meeting place and could not be turned back on; also many of you did not know about the program because our newsletter came late. As you may recall from the November newsletter (if you received one) the January meeting will feature a report by the writers of an explosive report recently released by the County Planning Department which projects ahead to 1990 and details what our neighborhoods will be like then, especially in terms of transportation services and traffic congestion. You really owe it to yourself to attend this meeting and hear first hand what we can expect here in V.E.P. country in the very near future if things continue to go as they have been.

Al Bender

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP DUES

Article IX of VEP By-Laws establishes annual membership dues at \$4.00 per household, payable January 1st each year. This low fee for membership has been in effect for more than ten years.

In order to offset rapid increases in operating expenses, the VEP Executive Board (none of them paid for their volunteer services to this community) has recommended that our By-Laws be changed to increase annual dues to \$7.00 per family, effective January 1, 1980. Because the dues are established by the By-Laws, however, a formal procedure for amendment must be followed; this includes the requirement for ratification by a 2/3 vote of members present at a regular meeting.

The proposed increase of dues will be discussed and voted upon during our meeting January 28, 1980. This is one price increase you are guaranteed a voice in; please attend and have your vote counted.

### **PLUMBING NEEDS?**

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SURVEY

The V.E.P. Homeowners' Association is a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the community in which you live. We are involved in the government process in San Jose, and we sponsor neighborhood social events.

The Executive Board of V.E.P. has decided to conduct a brief survey to discover your attitudes toward your organization, what you like and what you don't like, so that we can serve you even better in the future.

Please complete this short survey, then remove it from your Newsletter and fold it so that the V.E.P. return address shows, and either mail it or bring it to our next meeting. Please try to have it in our hands by Feb. 4th. We truly appreciate your assistance in this effort to serve you better. (NOTE: Two boxes are provided to allow both spouses to respond to each question.)

1. What benefits of V.E.P. membership motivated you, or would motivate you, to join V.E.P.?

- To add moral support to our homeowner group
- For closer contacts with other homeowners living near us
- To enable our homeowner organization to maintain a strong base for seeking governmental action
- To obtain the V.E.P. Newsletter
- To obtain information on community activities
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What community concerns are you most interested in?

- Crime (burglaries, vandalism, assaults)
- Transportation (mass transit, traffic, roads)
- Schools
- Local government (land use, libraries, services)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

3. What involvements would you like to see V.E.P. maintain or emphasize?

- Work with volunteers from our membership toward remedying community concerns cited above
  - Lobby at various levels of government for services and improvements in our membership area
  - Sponsor events that bring the V.V.P. community together socially (Halloween Happening, Easter Event, 4th of July Parade, etc.)
  - Bring political candidates and ballot issues before the membership in election years
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

(Continued on page 4)

Survey continued

4. Have you ever attended a V.E.P. meeting?

- Yes  
  No

5. If you have never attended, why not?

- Meetings don't sound interesting  
  Meetings are on wrong night of the week - schedule conflict  
  Too far to drive  
  Too many other activities  
  Newsletter arrives after the meeting  
  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

6. What night of the week would be most convenient for you to attend V.E.P. meetings?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. If you have attended, what suggestions if any could you offer for future meetings?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you feel V.E.P. is doing an effective job?

- Strongly agree  
  Agree  
  Disagree (Why? \_\_\_\_\_)  
  Strongly disagree (Why? \_\_\_\_\_)  
  Don't know

9. The success of V.E.P. as a volunteer organization depends upon the willingness of its members to serve in various capacities within the organization, such as serving as an officer or helping to distribute the newsletter once a month. Would you consider serving your homeowners association in some fashion next year?

- Yes, I would like to be an officer  
  Yes, I would like to help distribute the newsletter  
  Yes, if it would take only a couple hours a month  
  Maybe, but I need to know more first  
  No

10. Do you read the V.E.P. NEWS?

- Yes  
  No

11. Do you find the V.E.P. NEWS informative?

- Yes  
  No

12. Have you ever advertised in our Want Ads (free)?

- Yes
- No

13. Any comments about the NEWS? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Did you know that you can write articles/whatever for the NEWS? Would you be interested in writing, editing, or pasting-up the NEWS?

- Yes, occasionally (Circle your interest above)
- Yes, regularly each month (Circle your interest)
- No

15. V.E.P. dues have been \$4.00 for 10 years. Would you fail to rejoin V.E.P. if the dues were raised to \$7.00 per year?

- Yes
- No

Please fill in your name and that of your spouse, and your phone number:

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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THE VEP NEWS

Published monthly by the VEP Homeowners' Association,  
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VEP Homeowners Association  
P.O. Box 18111  
San Jose, CA 95158

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

In today's complex world, it is very difficult to live and have peace of mind. We must work, care for our children, maintain our houses, invest for our future and find time for some recreation in order to keep our sanity. In addition to the above demands, there are continual requests for you to participate in various community organizations. One of these organizations competing for your time is your VEP Homeowners Association. Therefore, the question becomes, with all of these time demands, why should VEP residents give any time to VEP? Why should you care whether VEP lives or dies?

Your homeowner association, VEP, has been in existence for a decade. During this time, it has hosted Halloween Parades, Fourth of July Parades, a track meet, many candidate nights for both political and school board offices and various other events VEP has thought would be informative to both its members and other VEP residents. VEP has filed legal suits on behalf of its members. It has kept VEP residents informed (via our monthly newsletter) about events at city hall that will affect them. It has represented you at city hall when necessary. It has helped get trash removed from open lots. It has helped get needed streets built and unnecessary streets out of the city's General Plan. It publishes and distributes to over 2200 VEP homes a newsletter created especially for and about you and your neighbors.

It seems to me the quality of your life and your children will diminish if VEP is terminated; yet, that may happen if none of you come forward to volunteer some of your time to help in VEP activities. It would be shameful to see VEP's technical expertise and government communication contacts go down the drain because you are not willing to help this vitally needed organization in your community. We could use as little time as two hours per month and as much time as it takes to be a VEP officer.

It is your organization and your time. If you do not think it is needed enough to volunteer, perhaps it is not. Just remember, the next time something bothers you about your community, you get both the quality of life and government that you pay for; no more, no less. Please help VEP stay alive. Commit your time NOW.

**SUPPORT V.E.P.                      BECOME A MEMBER**

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LICENSED CHILD CARE: Near Parkview School. Ages 3 and up. Lunch & snack provided. Call Norma @ 629-0570.

ED. NOTE: Neighborhood Want Ads will be carried on a month-to-month, space-available basis only. VEP residents only (free of charge)-- NO commercial accounts.

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