

# Peace Officers Research Association of California

THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS ASSOCIATION IS TO UNITE ALL PERSONS WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION FOR THEIR ECONOMIC, PROFESSIONAL AND SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT. IT SHALL BE THE AIM OF THIS ASSOCIATION TO COLLECT, STUDY, STANDARDIZE, SUMMARIZE AND DISTRIBUTE FACTUAL DATA IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDING OF PEACE OFFICERS. TO STIMULATE MUTUAL COOPERATION BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. TO SECURE FOR ALL PEACE OFFICERS ADEQUATE COMPENSATION FOR THEIR PROFESSIONAL DUTIES AND TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

## STATE OFFICE

SENATOR HOTEL  
12th & "L" STREETS  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814  
(916) 441-0660

TO: DAVID DEWITT, PRESIDENT  
DOWNTOWN BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

FROM: RICHARD H. LUCERO, PRESIDENT, PORAC  
AND D.B.I.A. MEMBER

SUBJECT: PORAC POSITION RELATIVE TO THE PETITION FOR  
A SAFER CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (ITEM 18  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DATE: FEBRUARY 9, 1981

The Peace Officers Research Association of California, representing 27,000 peace officers including the members of the Sacramento Police Officers Association concur with the petition and implore the City Council to take some positive action. The action should not be in the form of directing the Chief of Police to move patrol officers from one side of the city to another. More directly, the action should consist of an increase in manpower.

The Sacramento Police Department has less men today than it did five years ago. To assist the merchants is only part of the total crime problem in Sacramento. Any solution less than the hiring of more police for Sacramento is not adequate in addressing the problem and merely a temporary measure.

PORAC places the burden not on the overburdened police department but, with the City Council and the Courts.

cc: Mayor Phillip Isenberg

To: City Clerk

From: Thomas H. Paschane  
Sacramento Downtown Association  
Security Committee Chairman

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Thomas H. Paschane, request to be on the City Council agenda on February 10, 1981, Tuesday. I will be speaking in regards to security and related matters of Sacramento, more specifically downtown Sacramento.

Thank you,

*Thomas H. Paschane*  
Thomas H. Paschane

APPROVED  
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

FEB 10 1981

OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK

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CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
FEB 5 8 41 AM '81

February 10, 1981

Honorable Mayor Isenberg, Members of the City Council and  
Other City Officials:

I am Thomas Paschane and I am speaking on behalf of  
thousands of concerned Sacramentans who have signed petitions  
for better law enforcement in the downtown area.

During the past two weeks, volunteer members of the  
Sacramento Downtown Association/Downtown Business Improvement  
Area Select Committee on Security collected more than 2,000  
signatures on petitions headed with this statement, quote:

We, the undersigned, hereby petition the City of Sacramento  
to provide more effective security and enforcement of the laws  
in the central business district, particularly that area  
between 7th and 13th Streets, I and L. Improved service  
should include a more aggressive posture toward drinking-  
in-public violations--with violators sentenced by Municipal  
Court to serve time at Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center in  
Elk Grove--panhandling, soliciting for prostitution,  
disturbing the peace, indecent exposure, truancy, vandalism,  
assault, and sale of illegal drugs.

We petition the City of Sacramento to focus on these  
and other aspects of security, by assigning additional  
patrol officers to the area described above, and by causing  
officers then so assigned to be more diligent in the  
performance of their duties, and giving the police department  
the political support required for strict law enforcement.

We further petition the City of Sacramento to appoint  
key representatives of the Sacramento Police Department and  
City Manager's office to meet semi-monthly with the Sacramento  
Downtown Association/Downtown Business Improvement Area Select  
Committee on Security, composed of downtown workers and  
business people determined to achieve a safe environment  
downtown. Unquote.

I would like to note at this time that we are not, nor are the people of Sacramento, going to forget this problem, as it is clear to us the City Government has and is failing the people. We want some action, and we will continue to remind you until something is done. It's been over two years since a group of concerned business merchants came before the council to lend their support and help correct the problems downtown. Last August the council was asked to form a committee of representatives related to the problem to discuss and come up with some solutions. This council agreed to give it a try. Since that time I have only been able to talk with Councilman Lloyd Connelly who volunteered to participate. The City Manager's assistant, Mac Mailes, has only scheduled two meetings in the last six months, and the City Staff report has been delayed and postponed on numerous occasions. In short, we are not at all pleased with the nonparticipation of our City Government.

Downtown has a chance of becoming the financial and commercial hub of Northern California. We are encouraged by the great amount of construction that has taken place in the core area during the last five years. We are encouraged by the great amount of construction now in progress and about to begin. We are encouraged by the Governor's commitment to concentrate Sacramento area state employees downtown, and by implementation of the State's Capitol Area Plan that includes a large number of new residential units, as well as impressive new state office buildings.

And yet, we are discouraged.

To a majority of people, the mere mention of downtown Sacramento evokes images of drunks, panhandlers, pimps, prostitutes, toughs, truants, and drug dealers freely roaming downtown streets. Their number causes employees to fear the walk from work to car or bus. Mid-day shoppers are subject to verbal abuse. Conventioneers are cautioned to walk in groups. We are discouraged that occurrences such as these have become accepted as part of the downtown scene.

During the last sixteen months the Downtown Business Improvement Association hired private security officers for daytime hours at a cost of \$39,312.00. We learned that a better job can be done. Even with limited powers, the private security personnel were sometimes more efficient than the City Police.

The Assistant Police Chief states that the patrolmen are on duty downtown 80% of the time. We, the downtown business people, estimate that the officers are on duty and working at the most 20-30% of the time. Regardless of the percentages, what we do know is that the officers are not on the job enough or in large enough numbers.

I must reiterate what has been said in the past before this council; downtown wants a safer environment; we don't want lip service as to why only a little bit can be done. We want our tax money's worth of attention, action, and most of all, results.

We want the City Police to enforce the laws, and give the people the results they pay for with their own money. We want the police to pick up and process the lawbreakers.

This City Council has the power to, and we request that, the members of the council commit themselves to solving this problem. In view of the Police Chief's comments in the past about some of the problems within the police department--the shortage of manpower--we request the City Manager and City Council to employ additional City Police officers.

We request the City to submit a financial statement of monies not spent, including any and all emergency funds. We further request that meetings be held consisting of the Police Chief, City Manager, City Council members and downtown workers and business representatives to closely monitor the downtown scene.

Mr. Mayor, City Council Members, City Manager, and Police Chief, it is your duty to see that the laws which are being broken on a daily basis are enforced. These laws were made by and for the people's safety and well being; therefore, they must be enforced. In fact we, the employers, employees, shoppers, and tourists, insist that these laws be enforced.

Since the passage of Proposition 13, the sales tax has increased in importance as a revenue source for the City's general fund. And, should the revitalization of the core

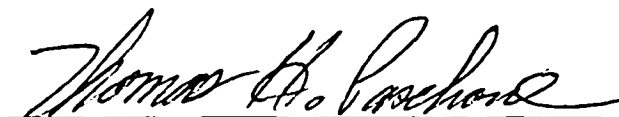
area be accelerated by improved law enforcement, properties will be upgraded and put to greater use, thus increasing property tax revenue. Increased revenue from these two main sources will benefit all City residents.

The City of Sacramento is the capitol of the largest state in this country. Considering the amount of tax dollars being spent by our City Government, we should not have to be before this council tonight asking for enforcement of the laws and the protection to which we are entitled. The sad state of the City's core reflects directly on the job being done by our City Government.

Tonight I am presenting you with an opportunity--an opportunity to dramatically improve the quality of life downtown. Through your commitment and our continuing interest and support, we can begin the process.

I urge you tonight to respond favorably to Sacramento's needs. If, however, this City Council fails to meet downtown Sacramento's needs and the City's as a whole, as you pledge yourselves to do when running for office, there will be opposition to your serving on this City Council in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



THOMAS H. PASCHANE  
SDA, DBIA Security Chairman