

Project Abstracts

OH 1115

NARRATOR: WILLIAM TONER
INTERVIEWER: Bruce Strahan
DATE: March 20, 1971
LOCATION: Santa Ana, California
PROJECT: Irvine General Plan Analysis
STATUS: edited & verbatim; 30 pp

ABSTRACT:

An interview with William Toner, a member of the economic team for Irvine General Plan Analysis. The purpose of this interview was to gather Toner's role and perspective surrounding the operations and planning of the city of Irvine. Topics include specifically how Toner became involved in the city planning; interviews with surrounding cities such as Santa Ana, Yorba Linda, Garden Grove, Newport Beach in order to gauge how they envision themselves in the future; interviews with large Orange County land corporations, such as Mission Viejo and Laguna Niguel Corporation; the problems of city planning and how Irvine wants to avoid those problems; how Irvine will appeal to future residents as surrounding cities encounter higher costs and lower standards of living; revenue sharing with local cities; the weakness of city recommendations; and finally, how reduction in acreage necessitates incorporation of the city.

OH 1121

NARRATOR: FOREST DICKASON
INTERVIEWER: Bruce Strahan
DATE: May 20, 1971
LOCATION: California
PROJECT: Irvine General Plan Analysis
STATUS: edited & verbatim; 28 pp

ABSTRACT:

An interview with Forest Dickason, a member of the Orange County Planning Department and director of the Irvine General Plan Analysis. The purpose of this interview was to gather Dickason's role and perspective surrounding the operations and planning for the city of Irvine. Topics include specifically, the four main aspects that go into city planning analysis: traditional physical, resource area, human, and economic and governmental; the future impact of Irvine on surrounding cities; Planning Commission reports; the issue of city incorporation; and finally, with regard to the Irvine General Plan Analysis, what Dickason would have done differently.

OH 1122

NARRATOR: EDWARD E. HOWARTH
INTERVIEWER: Bruce Strahan
DATE: April 29, 1971
LOCATION: California
PROJECT: Irvine General Plan Analysis
STATUS: edited & verbatim; 32 pp

ABSTRACT:

An interview with Edward Howarth, a developer, and board member at the Irvine Company. The purpose of this interview was to gather Howarth's role and perspective surrounding the operations and planning for the city of Irvine. Topics include Howarth's early role as the Director of General Plan and Special Projects at the Irvine Company; his responsibility to represent the Irvine Company at public hearings; population triggers, such as schools and neighborhood planning; incorporation as a city; maintenance of open land; avoiding mistakes of previous Orange County developments; how the Irvine Company views its public role; and how Howarth explains the credibility gap between the Irvine Company and the O.C. Planning Commission.

OH 1123

NARRATOR: ALFRED BELL
INTERVIEWER: Bruce Strahan
DATE: April 28, 1971
LOCATION: Orange County Planning Department, Orange County, California
PROJECT: Irvine General Plan Analysis
STATUS: edited & verbatim; 27 pp

ABSTRACT

An interview with Alfred Bell, a member of the Orange County Planning Department. The purpose of this interview was to gather Bell's role and perspective surrounding the operations and planning for the city of Irvine. Topics include Bell's recollections of how the Irvine plan began and evolved; political interests in the city of Irvine; city incorporation; how the Planning Commission tries to represent the citizenry; alliances among commissioners that altered the general plan; and communication breakdowns between the Irvine Company and the Planning Commission.

OH 1124

NARRATOR: RICHARD RAMELLA
INTERVIEWER: Bruce Strahan

DATE: May 17, 1971
LOCATION: California
PROJECT: Irvine General Plan Analysis
STATUS: edited, verbatim, & final; 51 pp

ABSTRACT

An interview with Richard Ramella, a member of the Orange County Planning Department. The purpose of this interview was to gather Ramella's role and perspective surrounding the operations and planning for the city of Irvine. Topics include Ramella's memories of receiving the original plan from the Irvine Company; analysis of the plan; forming environmental teams for analysis: human, physical, economic, and government – and the findings; tensions between the Irvine Company and Orange County Planning Commission; change in commissioners, as a result of local election; Orange County Planning Department's multiple reports in response to the original plan; the question of city incorporation; the Commission's subsequent recommendations to the plan; the opinion of surrounding cities; and the effect that the whole process has had on Orange County.

OH 1125

NARRATOR: HARLAN L. MENKIN
INTERVIEWER: Bruce Strahan
DATE: May 19, 1971
LOCATION: California
PROJECT: Irvine General Plan Analysis
STATUS: edited & verbatim; 46 pp

An interview with Harlan Menkin, a member of the Orange County Planning Department. The purpose of this interview was to gather Menkin's role and perspective surrounding the operations and planning for the city of Irvine. Topics include Menkin's educational background and how he came to serve on the Irvine General Plan Analysis (IGPA); formulating questions and conducting research, in neighboring cities; his main concentration with the economics panel; competition among the various panels; the lack of expertise (in his view) in the final analysis; his findings from interviews with members of surrounding cities (including Anaheim, Laguna Beach, Westminster, Tustin, Santa Ana, Mission Viejo, Laguna Niguel); how the city of Irvine effected the rest of Orange County; the concerns of citizens from the surrounding communities; and finally, the lack of communication and tense relationship between The Irvine Company and Orange County Planning Department.

OH 1126

NARRATOR: ANDREW J. MAY
INTERVIEWER: Bruce Strahan

DATE: April 5, 1971
LOCATION: California
PROJECT: Irvine General Plan Analysis
STATUS: edited & verbatim; 36 pp

An interview with Andrew May, chairman of Citizens for the City of Irvine Now (COIN), an organization that raises money for the city's incorporation. The purpose of this interview was to gather May's role and perspective surrounding the operations and planning for the city of Irvine. Topics include COIN's mission and goals of incorporation; the difference between COIN and the Council of Communities of Irvine; distributing and gathering petitions in favor of incorporation; the process of filing for incorporation; dealing with the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFC); the support of local cities, except Santa Ana; lack of support from (5th district) Supervisor Ron Caspers; the plans for a beautiful community; May's personal background and living under Communism in Hungary; the simplicity of the master plan of Irvine; how Irvine will avoid mistakes of other cities; how Irvine intends to control its planning; how Irvine garnered support from other cities; what influenced May to become involved in the cause for Irvine; his thoughts on how Irvine might increase the problems of other cities; how the presence of the University of California, Irvine (UCI) will be a focal point; and finally, The Irvine Company's relationship with COIN.