BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

JANUARY 18, 1973

A GUIDE TO DISCUSSION

REGARDING

AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE SEA VILLAGE PROJECT

1. COMMUNITY CONCERNS, . . . . . . . . . . CITIZEN GROUPS

2. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES/PROPOSITION 20 . . . . DR. D. K. SORSABAL
ADMINISTRATIVE DEAN,
BUSINESS SERVICES

3. POSSIBLE USES BY COLLEGE DISTRICT . . . . MR. DON TRENT
DIRECTOR, FACILITIES &
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

4. FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS . . . . DR. SORSABAL

5. FOLLOW-UP
ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL FOR USE OF 23 ACRE LAND PLOT

ADJACENT TO SANTA BARBARA CITY COLLEGE

Inasmuch as the Santa Barbara City Council rejected, by a 5-1 vote, the proposed Sea Village apartment complex on the 23 acres of the Mesa West of Santa Barbara City College in that the project would have a "significant adverse environmental impact," and is now seeking alternate proposals for this land, the following proposal is submitted.

It is hereby proposed that the disputed land be acquired for the expansion of the current Marine Biology program and for the creation of future environmental research programs under the heading of an Environmental Studies major. In the expansion of the present environmental studies and in the development of new areas of environmental studies, designed to be mutually acceptable to students and community, the weight of student opinion as to student needs shall be given equal consideration with that of the community which will ultimately benefit from such studies.

The present negative environmental impact as the result of the excavation and loss of topsoil of the disputed land can only be overcome by a program of building and land use such as that proposed. Through a positive program of land use, as proposed, this negative environmental impact can be reversed, bringing about a cumulatively positive social and environmental impact on the Santa Barbara area. Some of the benefits to be derived from the proposed land use program are as follows:

1. The preservation of what little open land space is now left on the present site of SBCC by relocating the proposed drama-music facility, scheduled for occupancy in the fall of 1975, to a part of the 23 acre site.
2. Mutually beneficial results to students and community from research in the cause and solution of ecological imbalance now reaching crisis proportions in the coastline waters of Santa Barbara.

3. Mutually beneficial results from research in the causes and solution to atmospheric pollution from increasing technological advances.

4. Development of new environmental studies programs in line with student interests, such as a non-academic agricultural program for those desiring an alternative life style in keeping with their personal philosophies.

5. Provision within the local college district of programs of environmental studies not currently available and which must now be sought outside the district.

6. An enhanced social relationship between students and community through mutual participation in mutual problems.

Since the land now under dispute was, according to Dr. Donald K. Sorensen, Administrative Dean of Students, SBCC, "once in the college district's hands," and since the need of the college for present and for future expansion, and the need for immediate crisis intervention in problems of ecological imbalance in the Santa Barbara area are equally apparent, the city of Santa Barbara and the college district cannot afford to make the mistake twice of losing this valuable land parcel. It is urged, therefore, that top priority be given to the acquisition of this land for the above purposes.

In conjunction with this proposal, two separate proposals are offered dealing with solutions to the problems of the destruction of marine biology of the Santa Barbara coastline through sewage pollution and the atmospheric pollution through overdevelopment of an increasingly technological society.

Submitted by Joseph de la Vega,
Veteran, Santa Barbara City College student, and native of Santa Barbara.