

FROM THE DESK OF

**Ralph Scurfield**

20  
2/20/80

Mayor and Members of the  
Sacramento City Council;

The "Hughes All Weather  
Track Committee would like  
to address the City Council  
on Tuesday, February 26, 1980.  
Enclosed is material con-  
cerning the project. Mr.  
Jack Mauget will be the  
person making our pre-  
sentation.

Sincerely,

Ralph Scurfield

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERKS OFFICE  
CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
FEB 20 12 00 PM '80

HUGHES ALL-WEATHER TRACK

Introduction:

This information is given to you on behalf of our Citizen's Committee.

This past June Sacramento hosted the California State High School Track and Field Championships at Hughes Stadium for the first time since 1950. This meet was a complete success and attracted approximately 30,000 people to the two day event.

This meet was scheduled to return to Sacramento every third or fourth year provided an all-weather track was available. Because of this, plus the fact that Sacramento has been denied other outstanding meets in the past for the same reason, we organized a citizen's committee in July 1979 to raise money from the private sector of the community to help finance an all-weather track at Hughes Stadium.

Cost and Request:

The all-weather track will cost a total of \$300,000. At the present time we have commitments of \$60,000 from the Los Rios Community College District, \$60,000 from the Sacramento City Unified School District, \$60,000 from the County of Sacramento, and \$60,000 raised by our Citizen's Committee from the community. We need \$60,000 additional funds to complete our project. We are asking the City of Sacramento to appropriate \$60,000. We realized that no one entity could, at this time finance the complete \$300,000 and because of this we feel the private sector of the community has shown good faith in the project by contributing \$60,000.

We did not ask any of these other entities to allocate money for this project until we were able to definitely commit our \$60,000 from the private sector.

City Benefits:

At the present time Sacramento has been eliminated as a site to host state, national and international track meets until we have an all-weather facility. However, this facility would be used in several other ways by the schools, colleges and community for the development of our athletes, athletic programs and over all physical fitness. This track will benefit the tremendous number of young people of the city and will increase their potential for local, state, national, and international competition. The women's and seniors' sports programs are growing at a very fast rate and require the use of suitable facilities.

Revenue from the tax on admissions will continue to increase as inflation increases. By not having an all-weather track the city would be eliminating potential future revenues. All revenues from events in Hughes Stadium should be considered and not just those from track events. As stated earlier track meets which create revenue have not been held in Sacramento because of the lack of an adequate facility. There are more people participating in some form of track than any other sport in the United States today and people of all ages are participating and competing.

All-comers meets are popular and are held at any time of the year, if facilities are available, and the more activities provided for the youth of the city would help keep them off the streets and not demanding other services of the city.

**FILED**  
BY THE CITY COUNCIL  
**REFER TO BUOLFIN FOR REPORT**  
**FEB 26 1980**  
**BACK 3-11-80**

Every track meet of state or national importance gives the City of Sacramento world wide publicity. If a Sacramento athlete sets a state record, it would receive world wide publicity. If this same athlete is among the top 10 in the state, he will also receive world wide publicity through the Track and Field News, which is the world track and field bible at the present time.

The Police Olympics are scheduled for Sacramento in 1981 and this will require heavy use of the facility. The facility could also be used by the city and county for their physical fitness program and testing.

Over a period of time the city will directly recapture their money through the amusement tax on gate receipts. This track would benefit the city not only from the use of the facility by its residents but by the number of spectators and participants coming to Sacramento for the track meets. The by-product from these state, national, and international meets is the money spent by these spectators and participants while in Sacramento is considerable and helps the economy of the city.

#### General Use vs School Use:

During the 1979 year 66 events were held in Hughes Stadium. Thirty-three of these events were Sacramento City School and college events and 33 events were general use. Some of the general use major events held in the stadium this past year include semi-pro football, concert, boxing, rodeo, church crusade, circus, Pig Bowl football, donkey baseball, north county vs south county Optimist football, and junior olympics. With the percent of general use versus city school and college being equal it seems logical that the expense to improve the facility which would increase the number of events, should be equal from each entity. We should not lose sight of the fact that the \$60,000 from the private sector is also from city and county taxpayers, and most will only use the facility as spectators. The Los Rios Community College District and the Sacramento City Unified School District receive their money from the same taxpayers and could be considered by some as one entity. When we consider the stadium use in terms of "school" versus "general" and separate Los Rios from the City schools the percentage would be 50% general and 25% Los Rios and 25% City schools.

There has always been a cooperative effort between the City of Sacramento and the school department as indicated by the use of the school facilities for the city recreation programs and the reciprocal use of the city facilities by the schools when necessary. This facility would only further this long standing cooperation.

#### Work Deadline:

It is necessary that we begin work on this project early this spring as the quotes we have received on our costs are only good until March 1980 as the companies feel they cannot hold these prices because of the continuing increase in their costs. If we wait longer than March 1980, we will not be able to complete the project for \$300,000.

#### Summary:

We plan to initiate this track with the Special Olympics meet for the mentally handicapped which will be an annual event. The heavy use of Hughes Stadium makes the installation of an all-weather track a virtual necessity. The schedule for this spring is fairly heavy including mini-track events for all-comers, boys and girls, junior and senior high schools events, men and women college events, and special invitational meets.

Each of these meets will draw a large number of people to the facility.

Past Significant Track and Field Activities

- 1965-66-67 Sacramento Invitational - foreign athletes - attendance 5,000 - 7,000
- 1966 First Golden West Invitational - yearly - attendance 5,500 - 8,500
- 1968 National AAU Championships - available every four years  
(2 day event) attendance 25,000
- 1972 U.S. vs Russia - Junior meet - attendance 8,000
- 1973 Offered U.S. vs Africa meet - went elsewhere as there was no  
suitable track
- 1979 State High School meet - available every four years - will not return,  
as they have ruled out dirt track as being acceptable  
(2 day event) attendance 30,000

The above is an indication of past interest by the national and regional track and field community. It is readily clear that given the proper facilities Sacramento can again attract track meets of state and international significance as well as serve, the expanded needs of our local community.

The Golden West Invitational Track Meet, which is a nationally recognized meet and is held in Sacramento each year, had to move from Hughes Stadium to California State University, Sacramento because of the condition of Hughes' track. This meet will move back to Hughes Stadium as soon as the facility has an all-weather track. They are one of the prime contributors to our citizens' fund.

We are asking that you help us fund this project by contributing 1/5 of the cost, which is \$60,000. to match the amount already contributed by the other entities mentioned earlier in this memo.



# CITY OF SACRAMENTO

## OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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LORRAINE MAGANA  
CITY CLERK

### MEMORANDUM

TO: BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

FROM: JACI PAPPAS, ACTING CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: REFERRAL OF ITEM NO. 20, AGENDA OF FEBRUARY 26, 1980

DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 1980

Pursuant to Council action, the following subject matter is referred to your committee for hearing, report and recommendation: Comm., "Hughes All-Weather Track" Committee.

cc: City Manager  
Director, Community Services Dept.