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July 19, 1999

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT: CITY OF SACRAMENTO'S 150th ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: CITYWIDE

RECOMMENDATION: For Information Only

**CONTACT PERSON: Alan Tomiyama, Administrative Services Officer,
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FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: July 27, 1999

SUMMARY:

This report describes the process by which a series of special events and activities will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the City of Sacramento. A Blue Ribbon Committee is being formed and is co-chaired by former City of Sacramento Mayors Phillip Isenberg, R. Burnett Miller, and Anne Rudin.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

When the City Council met for the first time in August of 1849 it took more than six months before the State of California officially recognized the City. The year 2000 will mark the 150th Anniversary of the City of Sacramento. As the oldest incorporated city in California, not to mention its significance as the State Capitol, Sacramento has



enjoyed 150 years of history – rich in cultural, religious, ethnic and economic growth. The City of Sacramento will mark the significance of its anniversary for several reasons, including the following:

1. We are the focal point for the entire valley.
2. Sacramento is among the top cities in the nation.
3. The people of Sacramento deserve a celebration of major proportions.
4. Sacramento will not see another citywide celebration of this magnitude for another 50 years.

Historical Dates

August 1, 1849: City Council's first meeting. The task was to draft the City Charter.

September 20, 1849: City Charter was presented on the ballot, but defeated by the citizens of Sacramento.

October 13, 1849: City Charter was presented again on the ballot and approved by the citizens of Sacramento.

February 27, 1850: City Charter was officially recognized by the State Legislature.

March 18, 1850: City of Sacramento was incorporated.

City Council Meeting – August 24, 1999

The evening meeting of the City Council, August 24, 1999, will serve as the venue and launch date for the City's sesquicentennial; this coincides (month of August) with the City Council's first meeting 150 years ago. Members of the Council, Charter Officers, and key City administrators will dress in period costumes; performers dressed in period costumes will reenact a short historical scene from circa 1849; and members of the audience will be dressed in period costumes as well. Representatives of Gold Fever and the City's History and Science Center will make brief presentations.

Yearlong Celebration

A yearlong series of events and activities will commence in August 1999 and conclude the end of August or early September 2000. The City will take advantage of existing events throughout the 12-month period to celebrate the sesquicentennial. Moreover, linkages will occur between the schools, our religious and ethnic communities from throughout the Sacramento area. Currently, the State of California is planning a weeklong State Expo along Capitol Mall, which will occur most likely the end of August into early September 2000. The crescendo for the City's yearlong celebration

will occur the closing weekend of the State's Expo. Old Sacramento will synchronize their "Second Great Gold Rush" to coincide with the State's events in August and early September 2000.

Two separate and distinct sesquicentennial committees are being formed. Each committee will be comprised of decisions makers who can get the job done. The first committee is a Blue Ribbon Committee. The three former Mayors of Sacramento (Phil Isenberg, R. Burnett Miller and Anne Rudin) have graciously accepted to be co-chairs of this committee. Representatives from ethnic, religious, cultural and business organizations will actively participate on the external committee.

The second committee is comprised of City staff, focusing on City of Sacramento activities (i.e. Police Dept., Utilities, Public Works, NPDS, Fire, etc.) For example, the Parks Division and Police Department have developed anniversary plans and have already begun their celebration activities.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Funding for the 150th Anniversary has been included in fiscal year 1999/2000 budget. The \$150,000 included in the current budget will be used as initial funding for the citywide effort. Additional private sector funding will be secured through the 150th Anniversary Blue Ribbon Committee.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

This effort is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

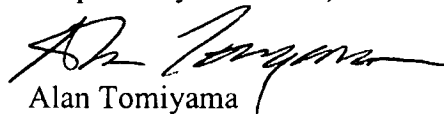
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

None

ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:


Not Applicable

Respectfully submitted,



Alan Tomiyama
Administrative Services Officer

FOR INFORMATION ONLY:



Robert Thomas
City Manager

APPROVED:



Jack Crist
Deputy City Manager