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DEPARTMENT OF
POLICE

ARTURO VENEGAS, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

November 26, 2001

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City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF DEATH ROW INMATES TO FOLSOM STATE PRISON

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution to support the City of Folsom in its opposition to the relocation of death row inmates from San Quentin State Prison to Folsom State Prison.

CONTACT PERSONS: Arturo Venegas, Jr., Chief of Police, 264-5121

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: December 11, 2001

SUMMARY:

This report provides information on the passage of Assembly Bill 1460 (AB1460) which allows for the relocation of Death Row inmates from San Quentin State Prison to Folsom State Prison.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION: None

BACKGROUND:

California State Governor Gray Davis signed into law Assembly Bill 1460 which permits the transfer of Death Row inmates from San Quentin State Prison to Folsom State Prison. The City of Folsom and the County of Sacramento opposed AB1460 prior to its passage because of the potential for adverse impacts to neighborhood safety, increased demands on public safety resources and probable closures of local streets and roads. Both the City of Folsom and County of Sacramento are concerned that the bill's passage represents a precursor to the ultimate transfer of all Death Row inmates to Folsom.

The transfer of Death Row inmates to Folsom State Prison presents several potentially negative impacts to the City of Sacramento. Among them is the proximity of the prison to the State Capitol and any ensuing

The mission of the Sacramento Police Department is to work in partnership with the Community to protect life and property; solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our City.

protests in both locations to gain maximum media exposure. Additionally, demonstrators may target Folsom Dam, located near the entrance to Folsom State Prison, which could threaten the integrity of flood control facilities and severely impact residences and businesses along the American River corridor through the entire Sacramento Region. Furthermore, the transportation of Death Row inmates and the potential for controversy involving such prisoners may endanger the public health, safety and welfare of Sacramento's citizens. These instances would require the additional resources of the Sacramento Police Department. The State of California, Department of Corrections may be better served by utilizing other options, such as the relocation of Death Row to one of the available remote prison sites in the state.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Fiscal implications to the City of Sacramento for the transfer of death row inmates to Folsom State Prison are unknown at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

This activity does not constitute a "project" and is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b) and 15378(b)(3).

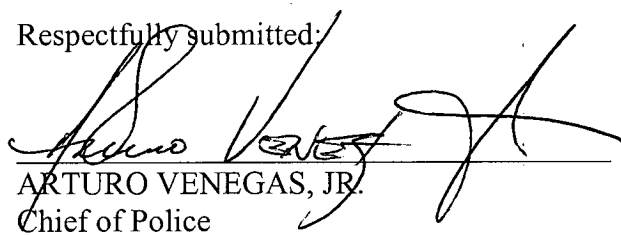
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

Support for the City of Folsom's opposition to the relocation of Death Row inmates to Folsom State Prison is consistent with the City of Sacramento's strategic policies to enhance and preserve neighborhoods and to make our city the city of choice for all citizens to live, work, learn and play.

ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:


None. No goods or services are being purchased.

Respectfully submitted:



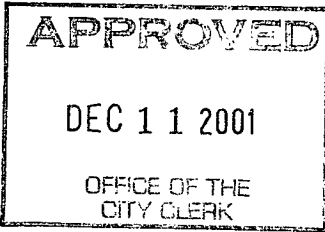
ARTURO VENEGAS, JR.
Chief of Police

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:



ROBERT P. THOMAS
City Manager

AV:tdj
REF: 11-16
Attachment



RESOLUTION NO. 2001-817

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF _____

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF FOLSOM'S OPPOSITION TO THE RELOCATION OF DEATH ROW INMATES TO FOLSOM STATE PRISON

WHEREAS, the Governor and the State Legislature have enacted legislation (Assembly Bill 1460) which considers the incarceration of Death Row inmates within Folsom State Prison; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and the State Legislature have enacted legislation (Assembly Bill 1460) which considers the relocation of execution activities from San Quentin State Prison; and

WHEREAS, the incarceration of such inmates will alter not only the population of Folsom State Prison, but the population of areas of the County in proximity to Folsom State Prison, including the City of Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, the incarceration of Death row inmates convicted of capital crimes will also require the transportation of significantly dangerous and infamous prisoners to places of execution. Such transportation and the potential for controversy involving such prisoners may endanger the public health, safety and welfare of citizens of the County and City of Sacramento.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO THAT:

1. The City of Sacramento, opposes the location in Folsom State Prison of Death Row and changes in laws regarding the manner and location of incarceration of such inmates; and
2. The City of Sacramento City Clerk shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Secretary of the Senate, the Chief Clerk of the Assembly and all Assembly Members and State Senators representing Sacramento County in the Legislature.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____