

## TALKING POINTS RE: HOTEL PROJECT

1. Why such favoritism for C.W. Clark?

He failed to meet prior deadlines. (Not once but twice. Or, was it three times?)

He was given over a half million dollars in development impact fee waivers for the Gateway Project.

Some twenty years ago, he was given \$25,000 by the City to improve the appearance of the old J.C. Penny building--he did not improve the building--the City finally asked for the return of the money--some ten years later--Clarke returned the money--without interest.

Why is it that when the City Council majority finally gave up on Clark, Clark suddenly discovered he could build the hotel with only \$13 million--rather than \$19 million in assistance from the City??

2. If the Hotel is such a good idea--why doesn't the City put out a new Request For Proposals? Maybe there's a builder out there who would be willing to build it with only \$5 million from the City.
3. The City is now considering the use of redevelopment money to subsidize the Hotel. Is this a proper use of redevelopment money? Isn't redevelopment supposed to improve blighted areas of the City? Is the area between the City Hall and the California Center for the Arts a blighted area?
4. The Library's budget has been slashed. It is closed on Fridays. If the City were to use the redevelopment funds for its anti-graffiti, or code enforcement activities (a proper use of redevelopment funds), it could use the freed-up funds for the Library--something the majority of citizens could actually use--unlike the hotel.
5. The proponents of this Hotel project claim that it will bring 200 jobs to Escondido. Gee--that's just what Escondido needs, 200 more minimum-wage jobs --maids, busboys, waiters, etc. The management jobs required will no doubt be filled from current employees from other parts of the country.
6. The construction of the Hotel may bring temporary jobs to Escondido--but where will the workers come from? Will C.W. Clark guarantee that he will hire only local contractors and workers?

7. The City is undergoing financial constraints due to loss of sales tax revenue. Construction of the Hotel will compound the loss of tax revenue to the merchants on Grand Ave. many times over.
8. The City cites the Hotel as a source of income--yet, currently hotels throughout the County are suffering, as are the transient occupancy taxes that their cities collect. And, the City of Escondido has agreed to waive collection of land-lease rent for ten years after the Hotel has opened for business. So--this is going to increase Escondido's revenue how?
9. The Pfeiler Pro-Clark Council has made several decisions over the last few years that haven't exactly gone according to their plans. There's the eyesore condominium project on Pennsylvania that encroaches on the sidewalks. There's the incomplete condominium project on Escondido Blvd. that is finally being completed as an apartment building. (Read future slum--like the apartment buildings in the "Mission District" approved by a similar pro-growth Council in the 1970's) There's another incomplete condo complex on the Corner of Center City Parkway and Second that blights Escondido's downtown. All of these projects were billed as "smart-growth" projects that would enhance Escondido. And we should trust the judgment of Pfeiler and company because??