

*check records
Dem. Party*

*no address
file
"K"*

RECEIVED
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
MAR 7 10 40 AM '80

Feb. 26, 1980

We are, as registered voters, protesting the lack of flood control in the Phoenix area. The huge amounts of money spent on road repairs, inadequate bridges and relief to flood victims is ridiculous and un-called for. Here again, is the "great majority", 'the Middle Class', having their tax money thrown "down the drain", which is a frequent habit among all branches of government.

The inconvenience of residents getting across the river with only two crossings is unnecessary and nerve racking. This constant flooding, and the ruinous resulting conditions have been going on since we moved to this valley over twenty years ago. The Salt River Project seems to be an all powerful organization which says it is not a flood control agency. The engineers that built the new bridges now admit to not constructing them strong enough. They were counting on the Orme Dam Project. The County Board of Supervisors, of whom Tom Freestone is a member, says the new bridge to be built at Alma School Road in Mesa, can only withstand 100,000 cubic feet of water per second. Salt River Project released 180,000 cfs from upstream reservoirs during the week of Feb. 13th through the 20th. This was at the height of their released flows. (See enclosed clipping). Since the Alma School bridge is "cast in concrete " there will be no changes made to strengthen this bridge to withstand higher water flows. So, there goes another inferior constructed bridge (should more than 100,000 cfs of water be released again), and there goes the taxpayers' dollars "DOWN THE RIVER"!, (Or, more appropriately "DOWN THE DRAIN" with the raw sewage now flowing into the Salt River!).

The newspaper clipping also states that the new bridge to be built over Country Club Drive in Mesa by the State is designed to span flows of 140,000 cfs. Now, this seems like it should be a better built bridge, one that can stand up like the Tempe bridge at Mill Ave. It would seem feasible to build at least one other bridge of the same quality as the Tempe bridge. We do NOT believe as Bob Evans! He states "if a bridge is built at major expense and then Orme Dam is constructed "we're going to look like a laughing stock". We have certainly never seen anyone laughing at the Tempe bridge, only gratitude that it exists. We are, also, unable to understand why the I-10 bridge was not constructed on solid stone instead of on shifting sand and rocks. Certainly the West can match the Mid-West and Eastern parts of these United States in bridge construction.

As far as the Orme Dam is concerned; it was stated previously by army engineers that there were approximately 7 ground faults where the dam was to be erected. Now, elected public officials want the Orme Dam built. The study of this land will take until 1982, so in the meantime

what do we, the people of the Valley of the Sun, do?

We certainly feel that NOW is the time to take the needed action by our elected officials (our public servants), to see that at least two more substantial bridges are constructed; one here over Country Club Drive in Mesa and one on the west side of Phoenix. There is absolutely NO REASON AND NO EXCUSE to subject the public to the harassment of terrible traffic jams and the tragedy of destroyed homes, livestock and at times, human lives. We want and need ACTION NOW!

Anything that you may do on behalf of residents here in the Valley will surely be appreciated. Please take any necessary steps you are able to, in order to achieve some type of flood control.

Sincerely,

Ada M. Koch
Anne Jasiro Helmackis
William T. Koch

Sir: (I(Ada Maxine Koch) am a double amputee and am unable to get across the river to Phoenix at the present time, since the county van is unable to make a trip with me to the doctors, or the prosthetists for leg adjustments. I would be taking up the van for one whole day for one rider, and this they cannot do and this I can certainly understand. However, this is rather an untenable position to say the least.

Jean Guida
Placido Frank Guida