

LETTER RECEIVED  
RE HARRASSMENT  
TO CITIZENS  
ATTEMPTING TO  
TESTIFY AT  
TRANSPORTATION  
HEARING

The City Clerk presented a copy of a letter which had been sent to Mr. Peter Verdoorn, Executive Director, San Joaquin County Council of Governments, from Ernest Lent, Chairman of the Steering Board, San Joaquin County Senior Advocacy Council apprising Mr. Verdoorn that no reply has been received from the Lodi City Council in answer to a letter sent to the Council by Mr. Lent on November 26, 1980 regarding threats and harrassement to citizens attempting to testify at the Transportation Hearings held November 19, 1980. Council

Continued March 4, 1981

discussion followed with Mayor Katnich apprising the Council that he has attempted to reach Mr. Lents by telephone, and will continue in his attempts to reach him.

**Robert Van Rooyen** ○  
Transportation Planning



**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
1890 East Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, California 95208  
Telephone Bus. 944-2565  
Res. 334-2470

San Joaquin County Senior Advocacy Council

RECEIVED

P.O. Box 4726  
Stockton, California 95204  
Telephone 209/463-5601

FEB 19 1981

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

February 18, 1981

Mr. Peter Verdoorn  
Executive Director  
San Joaquin County Council of Governments  
1860 E. Hazelton Street  
Stockton Ca. 95205

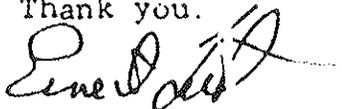
Dear Mr Verdoorn:

On November 26, 1980 I mailed to you a letter covering a letter to the Lodi, California City Council. For your convenience I enclose a copy of my original letter to you along with a copy of the letter to the Council.

We have not received a reply to our letters, and we fear that they may have been lost. It is my understanding the City of Lodi has a legal obligation to recognize a formal request.

We will appreciate very much your counsel and your assistance in the matters referred to in our letter to the Council.

Thank you.



Ernest Lent  
Chairman of the Steering Board

FEB 24 1981

# San Joaquin County Senior Advocacy Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 4726  
Stockton, California 95204  
Telephone 209/463-5601

November 26, 1980

## OFFICERS

MINERVA J. BERTHOLF, Ph.D.  
CHAIRPERSON

ERNEST LENT  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON

FRANK BODIN  
ALERT OFFICER

ELSIE GULJARNO  
SECRETARY

EDITH DIAMOND  
TREASURER

## Members of Steering Board

Ernest Lent  
Chairperson  
Frank Bodin  
Joe Reynoso  
Minerva Bertholf  
Juanita Ellison  
Ston Harkness  
John Le Veck  
Edith Diamond

## Lodi City Council:

The Senior Advocacy Council is deeply concerned by reports that persons wishing to speak in favor of improved transportation facilities for Senior Citizens have been threatened and harrassed in various ways when those persons attempted to give public testimony.

We are informed that telephone calls were made to persons who had intended to speak to the Transportation Hearing at Hale Center on Wednesday afternoon, November 19, 1980 and later the Lodi City Council Meeting on the same day, and that a number of those thus threatened did not appear to give testimony because of fear of retaliation.

We are further informed that persons wishing to speak in favor of improved transportation facilities for Seniors were required to identify themselves by name and give their names and addresses in writing. We are informed that persons testifying against that point of view were not subjected to the same requirement. We are informed that, upon being informed of the requirement, a number of would-be speakers were effectually silenced by the procedure for fear of retaliation. It would thus appear that a double standard was imposed upon the meeting to the advantage of persons speaking against improved transportation for Seniors, and to the disadvantage of those speaking in favor.

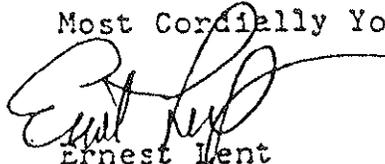
We hereby formally request that the City of Lodi take whatever steps may be necessary to assure that its citizens, including the poor and the elderly, are provided equal opportunity to express their point of view in whatever issues are germane to their interests, and are effectually protected from harm or sanction. To do less is to deny constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech to individual Americans, and to betray the very basis of American democracy.

We would suggest that it is the duty of each American community to supply to all of its citizens the normal services that make it possible for them to go about their normal business of shopping, attending meetings on personal and public business, of visiting clinics, hospitals and doctor's offices, attending religious gatherings, enhancing the education of their children and themselves, and whatever other legitimate business they may need to conduct. To this end, the Senior Advocacy Council would urge the provision of a normal bus system based upon the practices of the average American municipality of similar population.

The SAC is a private, non-profit corporation, dedicated to providing older persons with information about the forces which affect the quality of their lives, and providing information to public institutions and public officials which we hope will assist them in making wise and just decisions. It is in the spirit of that purpose that we write this letter.

Please call upon us when we may be of service to the city of Lodi and its citizens.

Most Cordially Yours,



Ernest Lent  
Steering Board Chairperson

cc: San Joaquin County Council of Governments  
California Department of Transportation  
San Joaquin County District Attorney

RECEIVED

FEB 23 1981

Return to: San Joaquin COG  
1850 E. Hazelton Avenue  
Stockton, CA 95205

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS QUESTIONNAIRE

DO YOU HAVE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS THAT ARE PRESENTLY GOING UNMET?

Yes  No

IF YES, FOR WHAT TYPES OF TRIPS DO YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION?

Health related

doctor  county hospital  pharmacy  SPECIAL PHYSICAL THERAPY

Shopping

groceries  clothing  other

Work commutes  
to where?

Personal

social security  post office  senior center  
 library  visiting  recreation  out-to-eat

Trips to other communities  
to where? (please list) DDI TO STOCKTON

Other (please specify)

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE TRANSPORTATION SERVING YOUR AREA TODAY?

Yes  No

DO YOU USE THE CURRENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICE?

Yes  No

IF YES, WHICH SERVICE?

Dial-a-Ride Bus  Subsidized Taxi  Fixed Route Bus

IF NO, WHY NOT?

Too expensive  Routes do not go where needed  
 Feel they are unsafe  Have to wait too long

WHICH OF THESE MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMUNITY DO YOU FEEL ARE NOT BEING SERVED BY THE PRESENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM?

the elderly  housewives  
 the handicapped  students  
 the low-income  elementary  high school  
 others  college  night school  
 workers

WHAT MEASURES DO YOU FEEL COULD BEST MEET THESE NEEDS IN AN ECONOMICALLY EFFICIENT MANNER?

buses running on a fixed route  
 dial-a-ride bus service } TOWN TO TOWN CITY TO CITY  
 subsidized taxi service }  
 vans equipped for the handicapped and elderly  
 ridesharing service  
 nothing can be done  
 other (specify)

PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONTACTED IN THE FUTURE AS COG PROGRESSES WITH ITS TRANSPORTATION STUDY.

NAME LEONA M. CUKROY  
ADDRESS 615 S. HUTCHINS  
1021 CAL 95240  
334-4435

FEB 24 1981

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 4, 1981

1  
LETTER RECEIVED  
RE HARRASSMENT TO  
CITIZENS ATTEMPT-  
ING TO TESTIFY AT  
TRANSPORTATION  
HEARING

Mayor Pro Tempore McCarty made additional comments regarding the letter received from Mr. Ernest Lent, Steering Board Chairperson, San Joaquin County Senior Advocacy Council, and addressed the Council on the conduct of the Transportation Hearings held in Lodi on November 19, 1980 which Mayor Pro Tempore McCarty chaired. 2

Robert Van Rooyen  
Transportation Planning



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Thank you.

Ernest Lent  
Chairman of the Steering Board

FEB 24 1981

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P.O. Box 4726  
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Telephone 209/463-5601

November 26, 1980

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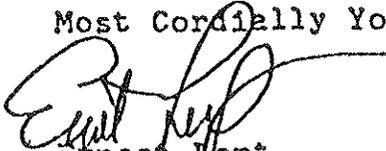
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Ernest Dent  
Steering Board Chairperson

cc: San Joaquin County Council of Governments  
California Department of Transportation  
San Joaquin County District Attorney

FEB 23 1981

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 doctor  county hospital  pharmacy *X SPECIAL! PHYSICAL THERAPY*

Shopping  
 groceries  clothing  other \_\_\_\_\_

Work commutes  
to where? \_\_\_\_\_

Personal  
 social security  post office  senior center  
 library  visiting  recreation  out-to-eat

Trips to other communities  
to where? (please list) 1001 TO STOCKTON

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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Yes  No

DO YOU USE THE CURRENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICE?

Yes  No

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 the handicapped  students  
 the low-income  elementary  high school  
 others  college  night school  
 workers

WHAT MEASURES DO YOU FEEL COULD BEST MEET THESE NEEDS IN AN ECONOMICALLY EFFICIENT MANNER?

buses running on a fixed route  
 dial-a-ride bus service } *TRIP TO TOWN CITY TO CITY*  
 subsidized taxi service }  
 vans equipped for the handicapped and elderly  
 ridesharing service  
 nothing can be done  
 other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONTACTED IN THE FUTURE AS COG PROGRESSES WITH ITS TRANSPORTATION STUDY.

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