

EMBARGO

Until

September 26, 2007

at 5:00 pm

**STAYSacramento!
Stop Arden Arcade Cityhood Committee**

Contact

Mike Duveneck, Ph.D.
481-8004 or 916-531-2280

For Immediate Release

September 26, 2007

Stay Sacramento! Stop Arden Arcade Cityhood Makes Formal Request to Investigate Gifts of Public Funds made by Cities of Elk Grove, Citrus Heights, Rancho Cordova and Folsom of Taxpayer Funds To Proponents of Cityhood

Taxpayer funds **inappropriately** being used to help fund another community's study for Cityhood

Sacramento, Ca – Stay Sacramento! Stop Arden Arcade Cityhood Committee announced today at a press conference, held in Elk Grove, that it is making a formal request to the Sacramento Grand Jury, Sacramento District Attorney and California Attorney General's office to investigate the cities of Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, Citrus Heights and Folsom for making gifts of taxpayer funds to proponents of Arden Arcade Cityhood.

"This is an outrageous use of public funds," said Mike Duveneck, Ph.D. chair of Stay Sacramento! Stop Arden Arcade Cityhood. "The Cities of Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, Citrus Heights and Folsom are discreetly diverting local taxpayer dollars meant for street repair, police protection, and delivery of other services to intercede in another community's local affairs."

To date, the Cities of Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, Citrus Heights and Folsom have given more than \$65,000 to fund the Arden Arcade Cityhood campaign -- an effort that does not have full support by the residents of several communities that comprise the Arden Arcade community. What is even more egregious is that these city councils are giving gifts of public taxpayer funds that should otherwise be used to deliver city services to the citizens of their communities and not for pure political purposes to support what one of these City council members called creating an "imbalance of power" between the cities and county.

Stay Sacramento! Stop Arden Arcade Cityhood Makes Formal Request to Investigate Gifts of Public Funds
Page 2

The formal request for an investigation is being taking in light of the previous gifts of public funds and tonight's consideration by the City of Elk Grove to give another \$30,000 gift of taxpayer funds to the Arden Arcade Cityhood committee. If the City of Elk Grove approves tonight's resolution, taxpayer's in these four cities would have been responsible for giving nearly \$100,000 to study the impact of Cityhood for Arden Arcade. In addition, another \$100,000 of taxpayer money for the Arden Arcade study is being given through the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), which brings the total to nearly \$200,000 in taxpayer dollars to fund an effort that does not have the backing of the entire Arden Arcade community.

"We do not believe that the citizens in these local cities would support or condone these political money grabs at these city council meetings. In fact, we believe that the voters who supported cityhood in these four cities would be outraged if they knew that a significant amount of money was being taken from city service and being given to an outside independent group to determine if another community is even viable to support a city," added Dr. Duveneck.

Because the proponents of cityhood have refused to disclose their list of contributors and the amounts given, Stay Sacramento has had to research through public record some of the public entities that have provided taxpayer funds. It is still unknown if there are other public sector or special interest groups also providing money to the incorporation effort and the conflicts that would arise if this community does become a city.

#