

WHY YOUR TAX DOLLAR
BUYS BETTER SERVICES FOR LESS
IN A FREE LAKEWOOD

We residents of Lakewood receive our services-- schools, fire protection, streets, lighting, sewers and sanitation-- under what are known as Special Tax Districts.

Under this tax system, the budget is set up for each service separately for each year. The dollars we pay into each separate service fund can be spent for that service only.

By contrast:

The citizen of Long Beach has no guarantee as to where and how his tax dollars will be spent.

Traditionally, the Long Beach City Council "robs Peter to pay Paul." The City Council can-- and does, every day-- take money out of one budget to make up a deficit in another.

The result is continuing confusion and generally poor services.

As an example:....Long Beach's inferior street maintenance is caused by the chronic uncertainties about its street department budget. The street department has in the past frequently found that its funds were suddenly insufficient to provide for urgent needs. Somebody up above had "shifted" the funds.

By contrast:

The streets of Lakewood-- old and new-- are kept in excellent repair. Why? Because the tax dollars we pay into Lakewood's Road District cannot be used for any other purpose. And with new streets being built, we will build up a large reserve fund.

If Long Beach annexed us, we would soon find our streets decaying as their do. Holes would go unrepaired, broken sidewalks would be neglected-- due to the city's poor budget planning and shifting of funds. Also, the homes bordering on paved alleys would receive a bill for any maintenance on these alleys.

As "East Long Beach" we could expect, judging by past performance, to be another North Long Beach-- a poor, neglected step-child paying taxes for uncertain and inadequate services.

Our tax dollars, instead of going strictly into Lakewood, would be siphoned off and administered by strangers in the Long Beach City Council. They have shown no great talent for running their own city. Where would they suddenly get the talent to run ours?

In other words, ask yourself:

What can Long Beach do for us that we are not already doing-- and better-- for ourselves?

If you wish to join this Fight Against Annexation-- join the Civic Council
....Membership \$1.00 per year.....Carry a Petition.....

For Information Phone 5-9747

L A K E W O O D C I V I C C O U N C I L , I N C .

Taxation Without Representation

The term "taxation without representation," is usually found only in the history books.

But to residents of Lakewood it is just as timely and important today as it ever was.

Here's Why:

Under the present Long Beach city charter-- as amended in 1950 in anticipation of Lakewood's annexation (the so-called "Lakewood Amendment")-- Lakewood could be divided up and portioned out among the nine present councilmanic districts of Long Beach.

There is no provision under which Lakewood could elect a Lakewood representative to the Long Beach City Council!

Long Beach strategy, of course, is to "assure" us this and "assure" us that. But we have the word of their own Assistant City Manager in the Los Angeles Examiner of June 2:

"Nothing is official....."

Here is the unalterable fact:

Before Lakewood could have its own representative on the Long Beach City Council, the Council would first have to create two-- or three -- separate councilmanic districts for Lakewood only.

But by so doing, the Council would have to vote some of its own members out of their jobs to make room for Lakewood councilmen. (These jobs pay \$200 a month, plus large expense accounts, for four meetings.)

Ask yourself: Would they do it?

Remember that North Long Beach waited NINE YEARS after annexation before it finally landed a representative on the Long Beach City Council. Nine years of taxation without representation!

The same fate would fall to Lakewood-- or East Long Beach, as we might be known.

KNOW THE FACTS BEFORE YOU SIGN ANYTHING: SEE YOUR CIVIC COUNCIL.

If you are willing to carry a petition against annexation, call your Civic Council representative at 5-9747 immediately.

LAKWOOD CIVIC COUNCIL, INC.

You can help preserve Lakewood's independence by joining the Civic Council today. Membership is just \$1.00.