Guide to the Orange County Environmental Issues, Land Use, and Planning Collection

Collection number: MS-R 65

Special Collections and Archives
The UCI Libraries
University of California
Irvine, California

Contact Information
Special Collections and Archives
The UCI Libraries
P.O. Box 19557
University of California
Irvine, California 92623-9557
Phone: (949) 824-3947
Fax: (949) 824-2472
Email: spcoll@uci.edu
URL: http://www.lib.uci.edu/rrsc/speccoll.html

Processed by:
Laura Clark Brown
Date Completed:
1998
Encoded by:
Michael C. Conkin and Adrian Turner

© 1998 The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.

Descriptive Summary
Title: Orange County environmental issues, land use, and planning collection,
Date (inclusive): 1919-1973
Date (bulk): (bulk 1960-1970)
Collection number: MS-R065
Creator: Orange County (Calif.). Board of Supervisors.
Extent: 2.9 linear feet (5 boxes and 1 oversize folder)
Repository: University of California, Irvine. Library. Special Collections and Archives.
Irvine, California 92623-9557
Abstract: The collection consists of correspondence, reports, court documents, minutes, photographs, and newspaper clippings documenting three major environmental and political issues in Orange County, California, in the 1960s: agricultural preserves, beach erosion, and redistricting. Primary creators and collectors of the documents include the Orange County Board of Supervisors and the Orange County Planning Commission. Documents illustrate political positions, public opinion, and law on land conservation and land use. Aerial photographs depict Pacific coastline erosion, and maps illustrate districting plans.
Language: English.
Access
Collection is open for research.
Preferred Citation
For the benefit of current and future researchers, please cite any additional information about sources consulted in this collection, including permanent URLs, item or folder descriptions, and box/folder locations.

Publication Rights

Property rights reside with the University of California. Literary rights are retained by the creators of the records and their heirs. For permissions to reproduce or to publish, please contact the Head of Special Collections and Archives.

Acquisition Information

Various officials from the Orange County Board of Supervisors donated records and publications to the UCI Libraries in the late 1970’s. Most publications were cataloged in the Government Information Department; the present group of records was placed in the Department of Special Collections to receive archival handling.

Processing History

Processed by Laura Clark Brown in 1998.

History

Orange County, California is located on Southern California’s Pacific coast between Los Angeles and San Diego Counties. The county was formally established in 1889 when the southern portion of Los Angeles County separated to become Orange County. The City of Santa Ana is the county seat, and Orange County is governed by a Board of Supervisors comprised of five elected officials, representing regional constituencies.

Orange County was heavily agricultural prior to its inception and until the 1960s. Oranges were the primary cash crop, and other crops included lemons, lima beans, tomatoes, walnuts, peppers and beets. From the 1950s through the 1980s, Orange County experienced massive land development, urbanization, and a significant population increase. The completion of a network of freeways contributed to these phenomena, and the land development and the growth of new towns and cities diminished many of the orange groves and open fields of Orange County.

Excessive development and overpopulation are long-standing, major issues in Orange County, and both coastal and environmental issues associated with development have played a major role in local politics and public policy, particularly in the post-World War II era.

1933 Orange County Harbor District established under the Harbor Improvements District Act.
1963 Orange County Board of Supervisors authorized participation in the Federal Beach Erosion Control Project. Local Agency Formation Commission organized.
1964 Phase 1 of Federal Beach Erosion Control Project.
1965 California Land Conservation Act of 1965, also known as the Williamson Act.
1966 California State Constitution amended, giving the legislature power to enact laws pertaining to open space.
1967 California State Constitution amended to provide special tax privileges to preserve land for "the production of food and fiber ..." UCI-Project 21 Study Team on Coordination of Urban Planning organized.
1968 Proposal for the dissolution of the Harbor District and replacement by a County Department of Harbors, Beaches and Parks. General and special district elections in Orange County. County Assessor Andrew J. Hinshaw presented findings on double taxation to the Local Agency Formation Commission.
1969 Irvine Ranch and Rancho Mission Viejo agricultural preserves proposed and approved by the Orange County Board of Supervisors.
1971 Following the 1970 census, Orange County reapportioned the supervisorial districts.
1972 California Coastal Zone Conservation Act.
1973 California legislature mandated open space and conservation elements in local general plans.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

The collection consists of correspondence, reports, court documents, minutes, photographs, and newspaper clippings documenting three major environmental and political issues in Orange County, California, in the 1960s: agricultural preserves, beach erosion and redistricting. Primary creators and collectors of the documents include the Orange County Board of Supervisors and the Orange County Planning Commission. Documents illustrate political positions, public opinion, and law on land conservation and land use. Aerial photographs depict Pacific coastline erosion, and maps illustrate districting plans.

The collection is organized in three subject series: Agricultural Preserves; Beach Erosion; and Special Districts, Redistricting and Planning. Material were originally in three large binders with similar titles and presumably comprised research materials compiled by or for one or more members of the Orange County Board of Supervisors. Original order of the
materials was retained, and it has no discernible logic.

**Indexing Terms**
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.

**Subjects**
Orange County (Calif.)--Orange County general plan.
Agriculture--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Agriculture and politics--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Environmental policy--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Environmental protection--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Land use--Environmental aspects--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Land use--Law and legislation--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Regional planning--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Beach erosion--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Shore protection--California--Orange County--Archival resources.
Orange County (Calif.)--Archival resources.

**Genres and Forms of Materials**
Maps--California--Orange County.
Photographic prints--California--Orange County.

**Series 1. Agricultural preserves, 1965-1969.**

**Physical Description:** 0.4 linear ft.

**Scope and Content Note**
Correspondence, minutes, reports, newspaper clippings, and court documents chronicle Orange County’s implementation of the California Land Conservation Act of 1965. Correspondence was primarily between political officials, particularly Orange County Supervisors. Most materials pertain to two proposals for agricultural preserves in Irvine Ranch and Rancho Mission Viejo. Items date from 1965 to 1969.

**Box 1 : 1**
Outline of Williamson Act and O.C. Board resolution concerning proposed preserves (1969)

**Box 1 : 2**
Agricultural Preserve Analysis, Irvine Ranch Application (1968)

**Box 1 : 3**
Correspondence and report concerning proposed Rancho Mission Viejo Agricultural Preserve (1968)

**Box 1 : 4**
Agreement between the Irvine Company and Orange County (1969)

**Box 1 : 5-6**
"Preserving Farms Today for Open Space Tomorrow," a report to the O.C. Planning Commission on implementing the Williamson Act (1968)

**Box 1 : 7**
Correspondence, memoranda, report and article for the O.C. Planning Commission on implementing the Williamson Act (1968-1969)

**Box 1 : 8**
Williamson Act (1965)

**Box 1 : 9**
Correspondence, request for independent counsel, transcript of O.C. Board meeting and newspaper clippings concerning the County Assessor and the Board of Equalization (1967-1969)

**Box 1 : 10**
Memorandum, correspondence and O.C. Board resolution concerning County Counsel (1967-1969)

**Box 1 : 11**
"Preserving Open Space in Orange County, Implementation of the California Land Conservation Act in Orange County" by the UCI Project 21 Study Team (1969)

**Box 1 : 12**
Articles (1967)

**Box 1 : 12**
"A New Program for Agricultural Land Use Stabilization: The California Land Conservation Act of 1965"

**Box 1 : 12**
"Assessment of Farmland Under the California Land Conservation Act and the Breathing Space Amendment"

Box 1 : 12 Report: "Rural Zoning: People, Property, and Public Policy" (1968)
Box 1 : 13 Letters and statements in favor of agricultural preserves (1968-1969)
Box 1 : 14 Court documents, letters and statements against agricultural preserves (1969)
Box 1 : 15 Newspaper clippings (1968-1969)
Box 1 : 16 "Trends in Orange County Agricultural Use," correspondence and newspaper clipping (1966-1967)
Box 1 : 17 The Irvine Company Presentation for its Request for Modification of Assessments (1967)


Box 2 : 1 "Sunset Beach - Surfside Study," Technical Report, Phase 1 (1967)
Box 2 : 2 Correspondence, reports and Newport Beach City Council minutes concerning Surfside Study (1962-1971)
Box 2 : 3-4 Correspondence, legal documents, financial papers, reports and summaries concerning the Beach Erosion Control Project (1963-1970)
Box 2 : 5 Photographs of Surfside (1963)
Box 2 : 5 Photographs, aerial panoramic of Orange County coastline
Box 2 OS : 1 1963
Box XOS : 1 undated
Box 2 : 6 "Summary of State and Federal Flood Relief and Disaster Laws Providing Financial Assistance to Local Agencies in Protecting and Restoring Public Property" (1963)
Box 2 : 7 Plan D, Beach Erosion Control Study (1963)
Box 2 : 8 "Report and Summary of Orange County Coastal Area Disaster" (1963)
Box 2 : 9 Recommendations of the Orange County Harbor Commission, agreements, O.C. Board resolutions, Newport Beach City Council resolutions, and Plan E concerning Beach Erosion Control Study (1963)
Box 2 : 10 "Report on the Beach Erosion Control Project by the Orange County Harbor Commission (1963)
Box 2 : 11 Summary of Beach Erosion Control Study (1963)
Box 2 : 12 Digest for the Beach Erosion Control Report Phase 2 (1963)
Box 2 : 13 Correspondence with digest concerning Beach Erosion Control Study (1962-1963)
Box 2 : 14-15 Reports on Beach Erosion: Vicinity of Anaheim Harbor and Surfside
Box 2 : 14 1949
Box 2 : 15 1951
Box 2 : 16 Newspaper clippings (1963)
Box 2 : 17 California codes concerning beach erosion (1919-1929)
Box 2 : 18 "San Gabriel River to Newport Bay, Orange County, California, Appendix 5, Phase 2, Beach Erosion Control Study -- Letter from the Secretary of the Army..." (1962)


Box 3 : 1-4 Correspondence, memoranda, reports, summaries, O.C. Board resolutions, minutes, legal documents, state and municipal code, budgets, and newspaper clippings concerning the dissolution of the Harbor District (1964-1968)

Box 3 : 5  "A Report to the Board of Supervisors on the Supervisorial Redistricting Problem in Orange County, California" (1965)

Box 3 : 6  Correspondence and city council and school district board resolutions concerning the Orange County Metropolitan Area Committee, chaired by William J. Phillips (1963)

Box 3 : 7  Resolutions in Support of the Orange County Metropolitan Area Status (1963)

Box 3 : 8  Recommendation of the Northwesterly Orange County Coastal Projects Coordinating Committee concerning Route 1; 240 freeway (1966)

Box 3 : 9  Correspondence, memoranda, reports, minutes and maps from the Northwesterly Orange County Coastal Projects Coordinating Committee and its subcommittees (1963-1965)

Box 3 : 10  "Proposed Supervisorial Redistricting Report" (1962)

Maps

Box XOS : 1  Supervisorial districts
Box XOS : 1  1953
Box XOS : 1  1957
Box XOS : 1  1959
Box XOS : 1  1961
Box XOS : 1  1963
Box XOS : 1  April 1965
Box XOS : 1  December 1965
Box XOS : 1  Census tracts by statistical areas (1970)
Box XOS : 1  Plan A
Box XOS : 1  Plan B
Box XOS : 1  Plan C
Box XOS : 1  Plan E
Box XOS : 1  Plan F

Box 4 : 1  Correspondence concerning supervisorial redistricting (1965)

Box 4 : 2  Correspondence, memoranda, legal documents, minutes, and summary outline of redistricting problem (1971)

Box 4 : 3  Supervisorial redistricting Plans A-F with Maps (1971)

Box 4 : 4  Notes, minutes, municipal code, and newspaper clippings concerning reapportionment (1965)

Box 4 : 5  Quarterly Population Report from the Orange County Population Research Committee (1964)

Box 4 : 6  "Reapportionment Revisited -- Is the Handwriting on the Wall for State and Local Government in California?" with maps (1965)

Box 4 : 7-12  Reapportionment plans
Box 4 : 7  Plan K
Box 4 : 8  Plan X
Box 4 : 9  Plan X-1
Box 4 : 10  Plan X-2
Box 4 : 11  Plan X-3
Box 4 : 12  Plan Y

Box 4 : 13  Newspaper clippings concerning supervisorial redistricting (1971)

Box 4 : 14  Summary, budgets and newspaper clippings concerning county taxation (1970-1971)

Box 4 : 15  Orange County cities' tax rates (1969)

Box 4 : 16-17  Special districts in Orange County, inventories (1967-1970)

Box 4 : 18-19  Correspondence, memoranda, newspaper clippings, statements, certificates and O.C. Board resolutions concerning special district elections (1969)

Box 4 : 20  Special district budgets and tax rates (1965-1969)

Box 4 : 21  "Trade Outlets and Taxable Retail Sales in California" (1968-1969)

Box 4 : 22  Report on Municipal Revenue (1965)

Box 4 : 23-24  Correspondence, O.C. Board resolutions and newspaper clippings concerning double taxation and special districts (1968-1969)

Box 4 : 25  Report by the Intergovernmental Council on Urban Growth (1968)

Box 4 : 26  Notes and supporting information concerning local government operations (1967-1969)

Box 4 : 27  "Trade Outlets and Taxable Retail Sales in California" (1968)

Box 5 OS : 2  "Phase 1, Master Plan of Air Transportation For Orange County, California" (1968)
| Box 5 OS : 3 | "A Study for the Richard Nixon Foundation, Phase 1" (1970) |
| Box 5 OS : 4 | "Final Report, Southern California Regional Aviation System Study" (1972) |
| Box 5 OS : 5-10 | City of Irvine General Plan |
| Box 5 OS : 5 | Preliminary Conceptual Alternatives (1973) |
| Box 5 OS : 6 | Comprehensive Evaluation Process, Work Sheet (ca. 1973) |
| Box 5 OS : 7-10 | Draft Plan (1973) |
| Box 5 OS : 7 | Supplements (1973) |
| Box 5 OS : 8 | No. 1 |
| Box 5 OS : 9 | No. 2 |
| Box 5 OS : 10 | No. 3 |