

April 2021

Handout: Vote "No" on the \$30,000,000 Boondoggle

National Organization for Women. Jacksonville Chapter

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THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN

VOTE "NO" on the \$ 30,000,000 BOONDOGGLE. .

JACKSONVILLE

The Jacksonville Chapter of the National Organization of Women has researched and weighed the \$30 million Bond Issue to be submitted to the voters on Tuesday and, after due consideration of its details, we are opposed to this issue as contrary to the best interests of the people of Jacksonville for these reasons:

PROPOSITION NO. 1. - Shall the City of Jacksonville issue. . \$12,000,000 in bonds. . for the purpose of financing municipal capital improvements projects under the Downtown Development Plan?

ANSWER: NO!

BECAUSE: \$70,000,000 of the touted \$100,000,000 of new building and development is ALREADY committed WITHOUT the new Bond Issue! The last thing we need, after pie-in-the-sky promenades, is the proposed 5,000 new parking spaces. Downtown is congested enough with traffic and air pollution from auto exhaust already. (Many of our aches and pains are explained in the newest medical reports as 'lead poisoning' inhaled from automobile exhaust emissions!) WHAT WE REALLY NEED: Cheap mass transit, efficient enough and convenient enough for EVERYBODY to use in and around the core city.

PROPOSITION NO. 2. - Shall the City of Jacksonville issue. . \$ 9,500,000 in bonds. . for the purpose of financing a Police Administration Complex?

ANSWER: NO!

BECAUSE: Any new police complex could be built on existing city land (over and behind the city parking lot) with existing city revenues. City Auditor McLeod's Report No. 80, dated November 29th, 1971, flatly states that there is more than \$1 BILLION dollars worth of unassessed property - mostly held by our more affluent citizens - which, at the current assessment ratio of 30 mills, would bring \$30 million in additional tax revenues WITHOUT a new bond issue.

WHAT WE REALLY NEED: A reassessment of some of the outdated laws, penalizing crimes-without-victims. . like drug and alcohol addiction. . Legalizing drugs (as the British have long since done!) would reduce our crime rate by 80 to 90% in one stroke - because the 'registered addict' could get his narcotic from a drug store for pennies, instead of committing crimes against the community to pay the price the Mafia demands for it. Then we would need LESS, not more, law enforcement.

PLEASE TURN OVER

PROPOSITION NO. 3. - Shall the City of Jacksonville issue. . \$ 8,500,000 in bonds. . . for the purpose of financing the acquisition, enlargement and improvement of Recreational Parks, Playgrounds Areas and Facilities?

ANSWER: NO!

BECAUSE: There is \$3 million earmarked for land acquisition and no-one will say WHAT land and WHERE

Will YOU buy a pig-in-a-poke. . ? We want to know WHO is getting the money! The City sold the 1,800-acre Imeson Airport property to a Miami 'developer' for \$4,500,000, which would have been ideal for recreational purposes. It HAD a 42-acre fresh water lake called Turner Pond, which teemed with fish until the City turned it into a garbage dump! How 'proud' is Operation Pride of that accomplishment? They have earmarked \$2,500,000 for swimming pools - in 1969, \$60,000 was appropriated to reopen Lackawanna and Springfield Pools Lackawanna was reopened, but for some reason, Springfield was paved and is now a parking lot! To implement a Court Order on integration, the City closed five schools in the black community, and padlocked the fences on the adjoining five playgrounds, making them inaccessible to the neighborhood . . WHY. . ? Abbey Hanna Park is NOW a beautiful, natural recreational area. Do they want to develop it to death. . ? Cover it over with concrete. . ?

We feel that 'Double Payment' is in a class with 'Double Jeopardy'. . On the one hand we are told that the 'new business and development' will 'pay for' the bond issue; on the other hand, we are told that we, the voters, will only each pay 2¢ a day, to pay for it! If they are being DOUBLY paid for this bond issue, they stand to 'clean up' on this one. . . .

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