

# \$150 Million Industrial Center Planned For East Torrance Area

Plans for a 600-acre \$150 million industrial center which "will bring countless benefits to much of the southern part of Los Angeles County" were unveiled Tuesday by Watson Land Co.

The development, to be known as the Watson Industrial Center, will be located about one mile west of Long Beach. The site is bisected by the San Diego Freeway and lies about midway between the Harbor and Long Beach freeways.

The center "will mean thousands of new job opportunities and millions of new dollars in local payrolls, purchases and property taxes," according to William T. Huston, president of Watson Land.

He noted that the development and construction program alone — estimated to cost at least \$180,000,000 over the next several years — "will pump several million dollars into the local economy, and when the center is completed, the companies in it will pay at least \$3,000,000 annually in local property taxes."

HUSTON ALSO emphasized that the Center will be "one of the most attractive industrial centers in America. There will be streets, deep setbacks and extensive open area around each building; loading areas will be screened, and every lease will contain landscaping requirements."

Planning, development and sales will be directed by the William J. Moran Co., 100-year-old, nationally known engineering, development, and construction firm in Los Angeles. Construction of improvements already has begun. These will include a drainage system, which the owners claim will be "unsurpassed by any in the state," underground utilities and streets.

Huston said the developers currently are negotiating with several prospective tenants, but declined to identify them.

THE WATSON property in the center will be leased, not sold, Huston said. In addition, the Moran Co. will erect buildings to tenant requirements, for lease.

## Resident Wins Trip to Fair

Sharon Stracener of 1427 W. 223rd St., won a round trip for two to the World's Fair in New York plus \$500 in cash for a total prize valued at \$1,109.42, during a recent appearance on NBC-TV's daytime telecast of "Let's Make A Deal."

Sharon won the prize from "chief trader" and emcee Monty Hall, who selected her from the Hollywood studio audience.

Hall gave Sharon a choice of trading an envelope marked "Trip," which she'd won early in the program, for a chance on other items of unknown quantity. She refused to trade any further and quite happily found herself the winner of the World's Fair holiday.

"Let's Make A Deal" is seen every Monday through Friday in color on NBC-TV.

The center has been master-planned for a "balanced mixture of light, medium and heavy industry," Huston said. "At this very early stage, we are anticipating more than 100 different tenants."

The center will be developed in several phases, Huston said. Site preparation for the first phase included installation of the storm drain system — "at a cost of \$750,000"

— placement of nearly 200,000 cubic yards of fill, laying of trackage for rights-of-way and construction of 60-foot-wide paved streets.

THE LAND for the center is one of the last remaining parcels of a Spanish land grant that is still in the hands of descendants of the original grantee, Huston said. It is part of a 70,000-acre grant made in 1784 to Juan Jose

Dominguez, a Spanish soldier who participated in the Portola expeditions.

Watson Land Co., in an unusual gesture for major landowners, coupled its official press announcement of the new center with a letter to the more than 3,000 residents of the area immediately surrounding the site, describing the company's plans and the benefits the center will provide.

## Shakespeare Writes Toastmaster Script

Joseph Huston and Roy Tolly, both Torrance businessmen, were inducted into membership in Torrance Toastmasters at the club's

second June meeting. Huston is an optometrist, Tolly a realtor.

Highlight of the evening was the initiation of a Shakespearean touch that will be continued as long as the members can stand it. This year is the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth, and several members have volunteered to describe plays they are fond of and quote from well-known passages.

THE MEMBERS voted the idea in unanimously last month, and at this meeting Dennis Bean, himself a Lon-

doner by birth, kicked off with a synopsis of Henry V, and quoted the king's ringing exhortation to his outnumbered troops on the field of Arincourt just before the battle.

Top formal speaker for the evening was Scott Albright with "You Are a Lot Younger than You Think." Tied for second place were Michael Luyt and Burt Hickey. Mike also won first place in the round of short ad-lib speeches.

ferred upon nobody. Bill Burchfield, its present holder, will retain it until next time. Present as a guest was Tom Parker, brother to member Clyde Parker. Guests are always welcome at the club's meetings, held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Club President Ed Curry at DA 5-4753 has details.

### BANKERS BUSY

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## Man Tumbles, Injures Back

Wilson Lee Whatley, 34, of 549 E. 224th St., Wilmington, was taken by ambulance to Harbor General Hospital about 12:30 p.m. Monday after he fell in the rest room of a downtown Torrance business. Police said Whatley possibly had back injuries.

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