

The Boxscore On Trip Costs

Listed below are actual expenses incurred by members of the City Council and other elected City officials during the past 18 months for trips to conventions, trade meetings, and seminars. In all cases, plane fares or transportation costs, when paid by separate voucher, have been added to the expenses for that particular trip.

When no account of expenses has been submitted, an asterisk (*) has been used to indicate the amount advanced to the particular person.

In the case of Mayor Albert Isen's trip to Mexico City, only the amount of the plane fare is shown. City records do not show an advance for expenses, although Isen says he received an advance from the city.

The latest trip, to San Francisco for briefings on urban renewal, is not shown on this list. Mayor Albert Isen, Councilmen J. A. Beasley, Ken Miller, Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr., George Vico have been on the council throughout the 18-month period. Victor Benstead and Nicholas Drale served from July 1, 1963 until May, 1964, when they were replaced by David K. Lyman and H. Ted Olson.

ALBERT ISEN

(Elected April, 1954; Re-elected 1958, 1962)

Aug. 10-14, 1963, Houston, Tex.	\$347.80
Oct. 20-23, 1963, San Francisco	229.52
May 25-28, 1964, New York City	595.89
July 25-29, 1964, Miami, Fla.	523.04
Sept. 19-20, 1964, Palm Springs	100.00*
Oct. 4-8, 1964, Louisville, Ky.	509.04
Oct. 11-14, 1964, Los Angeles	60.45
Oct. 15-20, 1964, Mexico City	277.50*

Total (July 1, 1963-Dec. 1, 1964) \$2,643.24

J. A. BEASLEY

(Elected, April, 1958 Re-elected 1962)

Aug. 10-14, 1963, Houston, Tex.	\$570.60
Oct. 20-23, 1963, San Francisco	250.00*
May 25-28, 1964, New York City	652.50
June, 1964, Oakland	49.70
July 25-29, 1964, Miami, Fla.	664.26
Sept. 19-20, 1964, Palm Springs	100.00
Oct. 11-14, 1964, Los Angeles	87.44
Oct. 14-20, 1964, Mexico City	600.00*

Total (July 1, 1963-Dec. 1, 1964) \$2,974.50

VICTOR E. BENSTEAD JR.

(Elected April, 1952, Re-elected 1956, 1960)

Oct. 20-23, 1963, San Francisco	\$250.00
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Total (July 1, 1963-May 1, 1964) \$250.00

NICHOLAS O. DRALE

(Elected April, 1948, Re-elected 1952, 1956, 1960)

Sept., 1963, Sacramento	\$164.47
Sept., 1963, Avalon, Catalina	154.42
Oct. 4, 1963, Sacramento	150.00
Oct. 20-23, 1963, San Francisco	250.00*
Jan. 27, 1964, Sacramento	157.86

Total (July 1, 1963-May 1, 1964) \$876.75

DAVID K. LYMAN

(Elected April, 1962)

Oct. 11-14, 1964, Los Angeles	\$100.00*
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Total (May 1, 1964-Dec. 1, 1964) \$100.00

KEN MILLER

(Elected April, 1962)

Oct. 20-23, 1963, San Francisco	\$228.25
May 25-28, 1964, New York City	598.05
July 25-29, 1964, Miami, Fla.	818.88
Sept. 19-20, 1964, Palm Springs	109.81
Oct. 11-14, 1964, Los Angeles	78.27

Total (July 1, 1963-Dec. 1, 1964) \$1,833.26

H. TED OLSON

(Elected April, 1964)

May 17-19, 1964, Santa Monica	\$ 79.88
May 25-28, 1964, New York City	617.04
June 24, 1964, Oakland	59.70
July 25-29, 1964, Miami, Fla.	674.50
Sept. 19-20, 1964, Palm Springs	100.00*
Oct. 14-20, 1964, Mexico City	518.53

Total (May 1, 1964, Dec. 1, 1964) \$2,049.65

ROSS A. SCIARROTTA SR.

(Elected April, 1962)

Aug. 10-14, Houston, Tex.	\$411.60
Oct. 20-23, 1963, San Francisco	245.00
May 8-10, 1964, Las Vegas	30.00
July 25-29, 1964, Miami, Fla.	850.00
Sept. 19-20, 1964, Palm Springs	100.00
Oct. 11-14, 1964, Los Angeles	98.00

Total (July 1, 1963-Dec. 1, 1964) \$1,734.60

GEORGE VICO

(Elected April, 1960, Re-elected 1964)

Oct. 20-23, 1963, San Francisco	\$223.48
Sept. 19-20, 1964, Palm Springs	100.00*
Oct. 11-14, 1964, Los Angeles	100.00
Oct. 14-20, 1964, Mexico City	600.00

Total (July 1, 1963-Dec. 1, 1964) \$1,023.48

THOMAS C. RUPERT, City Treasurer

(Appointed to office July 14, 1964)

Oct. 11-14, 1964, Los Angeles	\$ 50.00
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Total (July 14, 1964-Dec. 1, 1964) \$ 50.00

VERNON COIL, City Clerk

(Elected April, 1962)

Oct. 20-23, 1963, San Francisco	\$216.07
April 29-May 1, 1964, Sacramento	175.49
May 18-21, 1964, New Orleans	567.70

Total (July 1, 1963-Dec. 1, 1964) \$959.26

TOTALS \$14,494.74

Who Gains from Convention Trips?

(Continued from Page 1) The technical meetings—attended mostly by the appointed city officials—frequently contribute to the progress of the city in some measurable way.

The same question of benefits, applied to such meetings as the American Municipal Association or the U.S. Conference of Mayors, is not so easy to answer. There is a certain amount of public relations value inherent in representation at such a meeting, but the standard applied by taxpayers demands a dollar of value for every dollar spent. One councilman, returning from the mayors' meeting last May, was convinced his first-name acquaintance with the mayor of a large eastern city was of immense benefit to Torrance. A taxpayer, checking the cost of that trip, may not be so sure.

Determining the number of representatives which should be sent to a convention also presents some problems. Taxpayers wonder, for instance, why three councilmen accompanied the mayor at a national conference of mayors. Or, why every high-ranking city official left his job at city hall to attend the sessions of the League of California Cities. There are usually several concurrent sessions at a convention, but the importance

of each small meeting to the City of Torrance varies. It would be rare, for instance, if all sessions of the League of California Cities were equally important to this city.

THERE ARE those, too, who believe one representative close to the center of power in an organization is worth 75 persons at a general session. Organizations are influenced at their heart, not on their extremities, especially when the organization is a non-technical group. Professional meetings, such as the American Association of City Planners, deal in technical discussions, however, and the usual purpose for such a trip is to get the technical information.

One question raised by the taxpayers, however, would seem to have a specific and definite answer. Every dollar, indeed every penny, of public funds expended for a convention trip should be reported in detail. City officials have admitted a lack of control in recent months, and City Manager Edward J. Ferraro has promised tighter controls for the city personnel under him.

FERRARO AND finance director William Dundore have taken steps in recent weeks to establish—or re-establish—the controls which regulate

travel expenses. Forms used to report expenses are being revised, and Ferraro's office is studying a new administrative travel policy. The city manager also has promised that receipts to support expenses will be required in the future.

Councilmen, however, are not now required to submit receipts, nor to account to their colleagues if the trip was first approved by a majority of the council. Ferraro can not impose these requirements on councilmen, for they are his collective boss. Some councilmen travel more than others, too. Of the present council, Mayor Albert Isen and four members—J. A. Beasley, Ken Miller, Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr., and George Vico—have served throughout the past 18 months. David K. Lyman and H. Ted Olson were elected last April.

OLSON, ELECTED only nine months ago, has nonetheless made three major trips and attended three smaller meetings. His total travel bill adds up to \$2,049.65. Only Isen and Beasley have spent more for trips during the same period.

Beasley, first elected in 1958, leads all councilmen in total travel expenses for the past 18 months with \$2,974.50. Isen, who was first elected

in 1954, is second on the list with \$2,643.24. Miller, with \$1,833.26, is fourth on the list, and Sciarrotta is fifth with \$1,734.60. Both were elected in 1962. Vico is sixth, with \$1,023.48. He was elected in 1960, then re-elected last year.

In fairness to the senior councilmen, it can be said they preferred to serve some time in the council chambers before joining the convention circuit.

OLSON SAID he has attended "everything since my election to learn the job."

"I believe I am a better councilman," he adds, "But whether I'm \$1 better, \$100 better, or \$1,000 better, I don't know." Olson also said he would not apologize for any trip he has made.

Similar sentiments are voiced by other members of the council. A few frankly admit that the trips are rewards and add that most of the conventions are largely worthless.

At least one city official must believe there are some benefits in the trips. Generally, city-made travel arrangements are completed through the Space Age Travel Agency, in which City Treasurer Thomas C. Rupert has had an interest.

The responsibility for past decisions belongs to the coun-

cil, for it has approved the trips. There have been no dissenting votes in recent months, and in only one or two instances have trips been denied. Most of the councilmen have done their share of traveling, but the fact that some travel less than others does not mean opposition or disapproval of a trip. Councilman Lyman, for instance, has made only one trip since he was elected last year, but he is not on record as opposed to any of the trips taken during that period.

The perspective, then, is this: That some trips are necessary, that others are not. That some trips benefit the city, others may not. That some officials consider the trips a fringe benefit to be enjoyed as a reward for public service, that others do not. That some conventions require several representatives, that others do not.

All the questions resolve themselves into a single problem: Is that trip necessary? The ultimate answer must be rendered by the people who pay the bill—the city's taxpayers.

(This is the final article in a series in which Press-Herald staff writer Jerry Reynolds checks into the costs of the several conferences and conventions to which the city regularly sends representatives. In two previous articles, trips taken by both elected and appointed city officials were examined. The Press-Herald's analysis and comment on these trips will appear next Wednesday.)

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12x13.5	PIONEER DUPONT "501" NYLON	Crema Beige	\$ 72.00	12x6.7	SYCAMORE WOOL & NYLON		
15x17.6	WILD ROSE TYCORA NYLON	Purple	\$135.00		POPCORN	Martini	\$ 27.00
9.10x14.7	TENAFLY DUPONT NYLON TWEED	Red & Black	\$ 75.00	12x7.5	MAINSTREAM DUPONT "501" NYLON		
12x8.6	ENCINO PARK DUPONT "501" NYLON	Bark	\$ 52.00		NYLON	Off-White	\$ 45.00
6.6x13.6	SIERRA DUPONT "501" NYLON			12x10.3	ROYAL PLUSH DUPONT NYLON		
	TWEED	Gold	\$ 45.00		CHENILLE	Lt. Blue	\$ 59.00
6.5x19	CANDY LANE DUPONT NYLON			12x9.5	ROYAL PLUSH DUPONT NYLON		
	FILAMENT	Multi	\$ 43.00		CHENILLE	Lt. Blue	\$ 55.00
7.6x7.6	STARLITE CUMULOFT NYLON	Royal Blue	\$ 25.00	12x24	PIONEER DUPONT "501" NYLON	Olive	\$128.00
12x7.8	CITATION DUPONT "501" NYLON			12x21	DEL ORIO DUPONT "501" NYLON	Beige	\$126.00
	TWEED	Gold	\$ 39.00	12x17	SEVEN HILLS CAPROLAN NYLON	Ivory	\$103.00
12x10.6	RELIANCE DUPONT "501" YARNS	Cocoa	\$ 46.00	12x19.10	SHEER MAGIC CAPROLAN NYLON	Lt. Gold	\$122.00
12x21	LYNWOOD NYLOFT NYLON	Cocoa	\$ 89.00	12x19.9	DESERT TONES DUPONT "501" NYLON		
12x8.6	SIERRA DUPONT "501" NYLON	Lemon Twist	\$ 52.00		NYLON	Desert Frost	\$105.00
12x7.6	SANTA RITA DUPONT "501" NYLON			12x21.9	QUALITY "23" CAPROLAN NYLON	Avocado	\$130.00
	NYLON	Lt. Gold	\$ 45.00	9x9	PURVIS WADE WOOL & NYLON		
12x18.6	WOOLSPUN ALL-WOOL BOUCLE	Tangerine	\$ 75.00		STRIPE	Multi	\$ 27.00
12x8	WORLD WOOL & NYLON CANDY			12x14.6	DRIFTWOOD WOOL & NYLON		
	STRIPE	Multi	\$ 33.00		BOUCLE	Gold	\$ 58.00
12x17	ROYAL PLUSH DUPONT NYLON			12x7.3	MAINSTREAM DUPONT "501" NYLON	Off-White	\$ 44.00
	CHENILLE	Lilac	\$ 96.00	12x17	MAINSTREAM DUPONT "501" NYLON	Rio Cocoa	\$103.00
12x23	COLORMATE CAPROLAN NYLON			9x8.10	ENCINO PARK DUPONT "501" NYLON		
	TWEED	Orange	\$155.00		NYLON	Sand	\$ 40.00
10.6x6.6	BOLERO WOOL & NYLON TWEED	Cork	\$ 23.00	10.9x10	EL CABELLERO CUMULOFT NYLON	Charcl Tweed	\$ 54.00
12x19	LYNWOOD NYLOFT NYLON	Honey	\$ 83.00	15x16	CAMELOT CUMULOFT NYLON		
12x18.8	CHEVIOT HILLS CAPROLAN NYLON	Crema	\$110.00		SHADOW	Orange	\$137.00
12x7.7	LYNWOOD NYLOFT NYLON	Gold	\$ 33.00	12x9.9	BOLERO WOOL & NYLON BOUCLE	Almond	\$ 39.00
12x12	AMERICANA DUPONT "501" NYLON	Earth	\$ 89.00	8x10	CITATION DUPONT "501" NYLON	Wal. Tweed	\$ 38.00
12x13.3	SYCAMORE WOOL & NYLON			12x7.7	EL CAMINO ENKALOFT NYLON	Turquoise	\$ 45.00
	POPCORN	Martini	\$ 53.00	15x11.3	RAMBLE WEAVE DUPONT "501" NYLON		
12x21.3	SIERRA DUPONT "501" NYLON	Orange	\$128.00		NYLON	Martini Tweed	\$114.00
12x11	SYCAMORE WOOL & NYLON TWEED	Cocoa	\$ 44.00		PREDICTA WOOL & NYLON BARK	Bone	\$ 84.00

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