PROPOSITION H, THE SO-CALLED "LAKES" SPECIFIC PLAN, IS WRONG FOR ESCONDIDO.

It will cram a 430-unit subdivision down the throats of local residents by overriding the General Plan approved by Escondido voters. A Beverly Hills developer, using money and his well-oiled political machine, created the proposition so he can ignore history and bypass local planning standards and state environmental laws.

If passed, this massive development would add 5,000 more cars to already crowded streets and hundreds of students to already overcrowded schools. Because it would build houses where they don't belong, the City says that condemnation of private land could be necessary to widen and improve the streets.

Water demand for the subdivision would be 453,048 gallons a day and the City's waste water treatment plant wasn't designed to handle this unplanned addition. The subdivision puts houses in a floodplain and the official City report says it increases the potential for flooding in surrounding areas.

The developer offers money, a swimming pool and a club house in return for the 430 building permits. The official City report, however, determined that the revenues from the project "would be offset by maintenance and operation costs for City services and facilities..." Taxpayers will end up bearing the burden.

Most importantly, the "Lakes" subdivision would destroy 110 acres of open space. For more than 50 years, Escondido has benefited by the open space facility that identifies the Northwest part of town. Escondido residents were *promised* open space when they bought their homes. As stated in the City's report, Proposition H "would alter the existing...community, effectively eliminating the established theme and vison created for the area."

You have the power to stop this degradation of our town.

Vote "no" on Proposition H.