

# Finding Aid to the Marcus O'Connell Collection

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## Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Marcus O'Connell Collection

**Date Range:** 1980s – 2000.

**Collection number:** [Accession #05-09](#)

**Extent:** 13 boxes

**Repository:** County History Center, Contra Costa County Historical Society, 724 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, 925-229-1042

**Legal status:** public

## Information for Researchers

**Access:** Collection is open for research.

**Publication Rights:** [\[Here we need to add the publication rights\]](#)

**Preferred Citation:** Suggested citation of these records is: [Identification of item], Marcus O'Connell Collection, Contra Costa County Historical Society.

**Scope and Content:** The Collection consists of papers, reports, newspaper clippings, and audio tapes of public meetings, mostly concerning the environmental impacts of growth in Contra Costa County and the City of Concord. The material belonged to Marcus O'Connell, a Concord resident, civic watchdog and environmental activist. After O'Connell's death in 2003, his papers and audio tapes were obtained by local historian Dean McLeod, who donated the Collection to the Concord Historical Society in 2005. The Concord Historical Society in turn donated it to the Contra Costa County Historical Society later that year. The Deed of Gift states that nine boxes were donated to CCCHS but there are thirteen boxes in the Collection. Born in Montana, Marcus O'Connell moved to San Francisco in the 1960s and then moved to Concord in 1994. He unsuccessfully ran for Concord City Council in 2000. O'Connell died from cancer in 2003 at the age of 55.

## Arrangement of Materials:

### Box 1-A

Newspaper clippings, copy of a lawsuit regarding urban growth boundaries under consideration by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors in 1988, County reports on the Measure C-88 half-cent sales tax proposed for transportation funding, State and County soils and geologic reports, Concord City Council agendas from 1988 and related material. This box also contains numerous empty folders.

### Box 1-B

City of Concord reports and other documents on redevelopment, land use permit applications and development proposals from 2003, economic prospectus report from 1968, development proposals

from the 1970s, Police Department policy documents from 1998 and Planning Commission agendas from 2001.

**Box OC-4 “Clippings/Seismic Data CCC”**

Newspaper clippings on a variety of local topics from the year 2000, and a report on seismic and geologic hazards in Contra Costa County from 1998.

**Box OC-5 “Clippings, General”**

Files of newspaper clippings from 1989 to 2002 on local growth issues.

**Box OC-6 “Election Voting Histories / East County Habitat / Presidential Primary 2000”**

Traffic reports and improvement plans for Concord and eastern Contra Costa County from the late 1990s. The box does not contain the categories of information listed on its label.

**Box OC-7 (Label refers to numerous topics)**

Files of newspaper clippings from 1995 to 1998 on local topics, information on lawsuits against the City of Concord, and planning documents related to land development around the Pittsburg/Bay Point BART Station and the Pleasant Hill BART Station.

**Box OC-8, “CCC General Plan / ABAG / Delta Crier Antioch”**

Newsletters from environmental groups with articles relating to the Contra Costa County General Plan, notices of public meetings, and reprints of online articles from the Delta Crier in Antioch.

**Box OC-9 “Economic Partnership 1998 Pavilion”**

Reports and files from local government and business organizations about the local economy, booster programs for local development, and reports on the financial viability of the Concord Pavilion, an outdoor event venue in Concord.

**Unmarked box on Shelf 20**

Documents and meeting notices for City of Concord meetings and reports.

**Box “Concord Audio Tapes #1”**

Fifty-five cassette tapes of public meetings in Concord on a variety of topics from 1997 to 2003. There is no visible damage to the tapes but their playability is unknown.

**Box “Concord Audio Tapes #2”**

Fifty-seven cassette tapes of public meetings in Concord on a variety of topics from 1998 to 2003. There is no visible damage to the tapes but their playability is unknown.

**Box “Concord City Government #1”**

City of Concord General Plan Housing Element from 2001/2003, and City of Concord citizen’s opinion survey from 1998.

**Box “Concord Naval Weapons Sta #1”**

Reports, clippings and compact disks with information regarding the planned transition of part of the Concord Naval Weapons Station to civilian use, from the late 1990s.

**Black binder “Concord Development Clippings”**

A binder full of newspaper clippings on a variety of local topics from the late 1960s to the mid 1990s.

**Indexing terms:** Air quality, conservation, Concord Naval Weapons Station, environmental issues, land development, local government, redevelopment, traffic studies.