

# Fletcher Opposes Cabaret Change

If cabarets are allowed to be open between 2 and 6 a.m. they will attract prostitutes, narcotics addicts and dope pushers, City Mgr. Tom Fletcher said yesterday.

Fletcher warned the City Council of increased police problems after recommending against amending the cabaret ordinance to allow entertainment but no drinking beyond the normal 2 a.m. closing time.

Roland Holmes, co-owner of the Suite, a Logan Heights night club featuring jazz music, appeared before the council May 28, asking for a revision of the ordinance. He said it would keep bar patrons from visiting Tijuana after hours, keep drinking drivers off the roads and provide more jobs for musicians.

Holmes had asked that the sale of alcohol be restricted during the four-hour span when entertainment was to be presented.

"It is our opinion that the suggested changes in the ordinance would create many additional police problems," Fletcher said.

"It would be difficult to stop sale of beverages at 2 a.m. and more difficult to stop patrons from bringing in their own liquor at that hour.

"It is felt that prostitutes, narcotic addicts and pushers would tend to congregate in establishments open between these hours."

Fletcher said a review of policy in other cities showed no instances of change from the San Diego ordinance.

San Francisco and Long Beach prohibit live entertainment between 2 and 6 a.m. Exceptions can be made in San Francisco with permission of the police chief, he said.

A special permit for one day only also is issued in Los Angeles County, Fletcher said, but normally the activity is restricted.

In Los Angeles, the entertainment is prohibited in the four-hour period. Oakland prohibits live entertainment between 1 and 9 a.m., he said.

The council took Fletcher's recommendation under advisement.

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