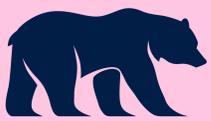


VERNON D. STRONG, SR.



**CALIFORNIA
RESOURCES**



VERNON D. STRONG (B.1928) WAS A RESPECTED CIVIC LEADER, PUBLIC SERVANT, AND COMMUNITY BUILDER WHOSE WORK HELPED SHAPE BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA, FOR GENERATIONS. BORN IN TEXARKANA, TEXAS, STRONG DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO SERVICE, LEADERSHIP, AND INSTITUTION-BUILDING, LEAVING A LASTING IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE.

BEFORE ENTERING ELECTED OFFICE, STRONG SERVED NEARLY 20 YEARS WITH THE KERN COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT AND BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE KERN COUNTY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (KCEA) IN 1958, ADVOCATING FOR HUNDREDS OF COUNTY WORKERS AND DEMONSTRATING A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO FAIRNESS, LABOR RIGHTS, AND ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENT.

STRONG WENT ON TO SERVE AS BAKERSFIELD CITY COUNCILMAN (WARD 1) FROM 1973 TO 1985, PLAYING A PIVOTAL ROLE IN CITY GOVERNANCE, URBAN PLANNING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT DURING A CRITICAL PERIOD OF GROWTH. AFTER HIS COUNCIL TENURE, HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE KERN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, INFLUENCING LAND-USE DECISIONS, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMUNITY PLANNING ACROSS THE COUNTY.

IN PARALLEL WITH HIS CIVIC WORK, STRONG HAD A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN REAL ESTATE, BECOMING A BROKER AND BUSINESS OWNER, CONTRIBUTING ECONOMICALLY AND STRUCTURALLY TO BAKERSFIELD'S DEVELOPMENT OVER NEARLY SIX DECADES.