



M.D. Tarshes

Date in office: 1956-1968

M.D Tarshes was appointed by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors as the County Executive in 1956. As County Executive, Tarshes believed in planning and the general plan and saw his job as an opportunity to bridge the urban and rural areas in Sacramento County.

During his tenure, Tarshes oversaw the beginning planning of the Sacramento International Airport, where estimated costs were between \$13 -15 million and the expansion of the County library system by adding new branches. Additionally, he authorized the DeWante and Stowell Master Plan, a plan to increase development by greatly expanding the sewer system.

A big proponent for the development of Regional Parks, Tarshes supported with the acquisition and development of Discovery Park, Ancil Hoffman and the Ancil Hoffman Golf Course. Additionally, he oversaw the creation of the American River Parkway and the completion of the Watt Avenue Bridge. Upon his retirement from County Executive, Sacramento County named the street going into Ancil Hoffman Park after Tarshes.

Prior to serving as the County Executive, Tarshes joined the Selective Service where he became a finance officer in 1941 and later transferred to the AirCorps where he was discharged in 1946 as a captain. He went on to work in the Veteran's Office in Washington, D.C. as an administrative analyst and after a trip to Southern California, Tarshes and his wife decided to move out west. In 1948 he obtained a job with San Diego County as an Administrative Analyst and worked his way up to Assistant Chief Administrative Office in 1951. In this position, he oversaw the consolidation of the San Diego County and city health departments.

A New York City Native, Tarshes graduated from Columbia University with a degree in Business Administration.