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Bid on Nixon Birthplace

Yorba Linda

A non-profit community group says it hopes to buy Richard M. Nixon's birthplace from the Yorba Linda School District and open it to tourists as a historical site.

The Nixon Birthplace Foundation, a loose coalition of eight local Nixon supporters, plans to offer the district \$125,000 for the former president's old home and its surrounding 1.3 acres of land during a school board meeting today, the group's vice chairman, Roland Bigonger, announced Tuesday.

"It's anticipated the board would respond favorably to the offer," Superintendent Sterling Fox said.

Bigonger, a Los Angeles area businessman, said he'll take a \$5000 cashier's check to the board meeting to back up his group's offer, which will give the foundation 90 days to finance the balance, he added.

"We're reasonably sure money will be forthcoming from private donors," Bigonger claimed.

Sale of the Nixon birthplace will not become final until the Orange county Board of Supervisors also approves it, Fox said.

The school district bought the Nixon birthplace in the 1940s when it was expanding an adjacent school site, now the Richard Nixon Elementary School, Fox noted.

The home is currently being rented to the district's maintenance foreman.

Associated Press