

City will pay to steam-clean sidewalks

Pacific Ave.
Sentinel staff report

4-25-97

SANTA CRUZ — Those clean downtown sidewalks have been such a success that the council agreed to spend \$40,000 Tuesday to keep the work going for another year.

The contract for steam-cleaning services went to low bidder Coyote Industrial of Santa Cruz, the same company that has been tackling the job since September. The company's current contract expires June 30.

Some 100,000 square feet of sidewalks along Pacific Avenue and key side streets will continue to be cleaned at least once a month.

The council's decision to fund the steam-cleaning program came after four years of wrangling with downtown business owners over who should be responsible.

Although some business owners were paying to clean the sidewalks in front of their buildings, others were not. As a result, there was a patchwork of dirt and grime on sidewalks that had only just recently been replaced.

The council cried uncle in September, although then-Mayor Mike Rotkin warned businesses not to consider the city a steam-cleaning cash cow.

For at least one more year, however, the city will continue funding the program.