

Meters seen as solution to parking problems in village

Capitola - 1970 - 1979

Parking meters may be appearing in Capitola village this summer as city government continues to wrestle with the chronic parking shortage in the village.

City Manager Max Kludt said this week that he's preparing a recommendation to the city council, urging the installation of parking meters throughout the commercial areas of the village.

Kludt doubted, however, that he'll have the recommendation ready for Monday night's council session.

Kludt expanded on the suggestions made by Wayne Hansen, chairman of the ad hoc village parking committee, suggesting that approximately 137 meters be installed along the Esplanade and in the city's beach parking lot, along with stringently-patrolled two-hour parking areas in the remainder of the village.

Kludt would like to see the parking meters installed throughout the village commercial areas. He indicated he would

ask that they be installed this summer.

The city planning commission Monday night continued a parking variance request by Hot Feet owner Victor Tognazzini, who wants to build a two-story commercial-residential building in the vacant lot between 210 and 212 Monterey Ave.

Tognazzini had sought a variance from the city's parking ordinance that would have required five off-street parking places for the building. He proposed two spaces, entered from El Camino Medio.

In April, 1975, city planner Pat McCormick reminded the commission, the commission allowed a two-space variance to Ed Doucette after he submitted plans showing three parking spaces in the same area as Tognazzini proposed two.

McCormick took a hard line on the application:

"The staff feels that no parking variances should be granted until a solution is implemented to relieve the parking problems in

the village."

Tognazzini argued:

"I find it (McCormick's recommendation) inconsistent with past variances granted by the commission. While I agree we need parking, I feel that we do deserve the variance because this land is a public eyesore. I believe this building will enhance the beauty of the village.

"The city council needs to address the parking problem. They need to look into it, but based on the past variances, mine should be granted."

In his staff report, McCormick listed the parking variances granted by the planning commission since Feb. 1, 1976:

Sotero, 318 Capitola Ave., 10 spaces; Bucher, 321 Capitola Ave., two spaces; Choi, Capitola and Stockton Avenues, one space; Hubback, 214 Capitola Ave., four spaces.

Commissioners indicated they would probably approve the variance request if Tognazzini provided one more off-street parking space.

"I would like to see as many places as possible," said commission chairman Howard Dysle.

"If I can get three, I'll do it," Tognazzini responded. "I am concerned with the parking problems as well."

Commissioner Alvin Wilder told the other commissioners he felt "we must draw the line

somewhere. If the applicant will district, I'll go with three." commit himself to the parking

Tognazzini proposed a two-week continuance while he contacts his architect.

The commission accepted the proposal.

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