

Supervisors mull Aptos utility plans

The undergrounding of power and other utility wires in Aptos Village will be discussed Dec. 4 by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors.

The county is proposing to use money set aside by PG&E and other utilities to bury overhead wires along Soquel Drive from State Park Drive to the railroad trestle on the south side of the Village.

Cost of the project is estimated at \$1,140,000 by PG&E representative Reggie Starrs.

The supervisors last week, at the request of Supervisor Robley Levy, approved a boundary map for the undergrounding district. The district includes most of the properties fronting on Soquel Drive from State Park Drive south, but excludes the Rancho del Mar shopping center because the center receives its power from lines on State Park Drive. The Bayview Hotel complex and Aptos Station development are also outside the district. Businesses and homes on Aptos Road between Trout Gulch and Bernal Street will be included in the district.

Work will not start until September, 1985.

Once the underground lines are in place, property owners will be required to connect their buildings to the underground system. Depending on the distance from the street, the size and complexity of the service, the cost of connecting to the new system will range from a few hundred dollars to several thousand.

That work is expected to be completed by March 1, 1986, with removal of the overhead lines — the final step — completed by June, 1986.