

City considers repair, improvement budget ✓

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SANTA CRUZ — Councilmembers are getting closer to decisions on projects in a \$6.7-million repair and improvement budget for 1983-84.

Some projects will overlap the year, but their budgets are included in the coming fiscal year's account. Final decisions are expected June 28.

The council met Tuesday and Wednesday in budget discussions and in the capital improvements section tried to stretch a few dollars and delay one or two projects. They expressed dismay over the unwanted delay of one major project.

The council was told that repair of Soquel Avenue Bridge — still missing one-third of its width from the January 1982 storm — will take another 18 months. Councilman John Laird responded, "That's outrageous."

"Isn't there somebody in a responsible position we can beat up?" Laird asked.

Staff members quickly pacified him before federal officials could catch word of his ingratitude.

The federal government is paying the \$330,000 cost.

Public Works Director Larry Erwin said the work is expected to be completed by the fall of 1984 "at the earliest."

The council may put some city money into resurfacing five tennis courts at Santa Cruz High School, but the city will pay no more than half the \$75,000 cost.

It has been asked to pick up \$50,000.

To participate, the council is considering dropping a \$45,000 conversion of a maintenance building at Harvey West Park into a "sports activity center."

Councilman John Mahaney asked for a cost figure on sweeping more of the city's streets, saying that some of them "are getting horrible."

Erwin said he'd bring in costs of quarterly or half-year sweeps to see if the city can afford them.

Councilman Spiro Mellis said he's going to raise the issue of the implementation of the Livable Streets Plan and the traffic islands and trees that

are scheduled.

"I know I'll be accused of politicizing the issue," he said.

Councilwoman Mardi Wormhoudt said she's interested in having the city explore purchase of the lot by the YWCA building, with Mellis responding, "I'm not in favor of that at all."

He said the Loudon Nelson Center park is only three blocks away and Mahaney said he wasn't so sure that there were enough kids in the neighborhood to support buying the lot by the YWCA building.

He was assured there were plenty of kids.

Councilman Joe Ghio was disbelieving that the Ocean Street project, between Dakota Street to Soquel Avenue, would finally be done.

"It's been going up in cost every year," he said of the \$979,000 project that will widen the road and place a median strip.

Proposed projects are as follows:

DeLaveaga Park paving at \$15,000, University Terrace Park at \$223,000, sports activity center at Harvey West at \$45,000, Beach Street planter strip, \$15,000, Lighthouse Field plan, \$250,000.

Cooper Street Mall, \$15,000, Park maintenance building, \$20,000, Garfield Park improvements, \$50,000, Lighthouse Point repair, \$95,000, Neary's Lagoon improvements, \$93,000, Harvey West pool solar system, \$85,000, DeLaveaga Park improvements, \$110,000, Seabright Cove drainage improvements, \$5,000.

DeLaveaga Park restrooms, \$50,000, Boulder Creek Library, \$153,350, Ocean Street median, \$979,000, minor street improvements, \$20,000, bicycle paths, \$10,000, Woodrow Avenue median, \$186,000, sidewalk repair, \$40,000, arterial street reconstruction and overlay, \$500,000.

Western Drive reconstruction, \$320,000, High Street design costs for widening, \$30,000, Soquel Avenue Bridge, \$330,000, Market Street repair, \$61,000, West Cliff Drive repair, \$75,000, Laurel Street Extension walkway repair, \$200,000.

Traffic safety improvements, \$30,000, Downtown traffic circulation improvements, \$100,000, Western

Drive-Highway I traffic signal, \$175,000, East Cliff Drive-Ocean Street traffic signal, \$100,000, residential traffic islands, \$45,000.

Redesign of downtown parking lots, \$80,000, multi-use parking structure, \$150,000, money for downtown parking lot land, \$200,000, Third deck on parking structure by Wells Fargo, \$600,000, sewer improvements, \$25,000, Meder Street access road, \$35,000, Coral Street sewer, \$50,000, Laurel Street sewer, \$25,000.

Sewer master plan, \$50,000, garbage dump, \$25,000, water mains, \$229,000, water service and meters, \$50,000, fire hydrants, \$15,000, Graham Hill plant, \$88,000, Pasatiempo tank and booster, \$280,000, Beltz plant, \$200,000.

Loch Lomond headquarters, \$10,000, Bay Street reservoir seismic stability analysis, \$60,000, flood damage, \$92,000 and laboratory equipment, \$42,600.