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Land Swap Gets Backing From ESCBA

The East Santa Cruz Businessmen's association at a special meeting last night unanimously passed a resolution endorsing the proposed land swap between the Santa Cruz Urban redevelopment agency and the county which will put a new courthouse at the intersection of Ocean and Water streets.

Larry Bertsch, associate president, reported that the resolution requests "Supervisor Walter G. Merrill and the other members of the board to pursue the possibility of acquiring the 11 acres of land within the San Lorenzo Park project as a compromise site."

"We urge this action at the earliest date so a bond issue for the courthouse may be placed before the people in early 1960," Bertsch stressed.

The president explained the DeLaveaga park site had been the "favorite" choice of the association for a courthouse because of its central location, financial advantages and esthetic values. At the session last night members were in "complete agreement" on the spacious intersection parcel.

Merrill said that with the association giving him solid backing, his next step will be to urge the board Monday to adopt "in principle" the exchange in which the county pays the agency \$30,000 for more land than it now owns in the project.

In the trade, the county gives up its 3½-acre parcel (old Garibaldi hotel site) on the west bank of the project for 10-11 acres at the Ocean and Water streets corner.

Urban Renewal