

Convention Center Site Plan In Works

By Don Righetti
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A site development plan for Santa Cruz' proposed \$1.75 million convention center will be completed in approximately one month, Santa Cruz City Manager Dave Koester has reported.

The plan, being prepared by the design firm of Wiener and Fischer of Oakland, will include architects' renderings, an illustration of building arrangements and a model of the site.

The city is contributing \$3000 to the cost of the plan, and another \$9000 will be paid by developers of the commercial interests at the convention site.

The site development plan is the current subject of a series of meetings between developers and a city-county committee made up of three city councilmen and two supervisors.

Koester explained that the outside developers were included as an integral factor in the planning, since the city has long held the opinion the convention center establishment was not feasible without the adjacent commercial enterprises.

The developers, with a great many factors of their planning

still in mid-air, have revealed few details of their project proposals.

They have noted, however, that their plans include a major convention headquarters hotel and a picturesque tourist shopping complex to be finished in a New England motif.

Next major step in the center development will be the signing of a joint powers agreement by the city and county to set up the legal mechanics of carrying out the project.

Once the agreement is signed, a joint powers authority will be appointed to administer the project. Its members will consist of one city councilman, one supervisor and three private citizens.

The center, to be located at Lighthouse Point, is expected to pump \$3 million annually into Santa Cruz' economy.

SCHOOL BILL PASSED

Sacramento (AP). — A bill that would give California's elementary schools a limited choice of state textbooks for each grade was approved 42-2 by the Assembly Friday.