



## Bridge work

Kurt Ellison

Paul Matlock, working the backhoe, and Tom Gestri, above, remove earth from around the Corralitos bridge Monday afternoon. The crew, working for James A. Savatone Construction Co. of Santa Cruz, is clearing the

bridge so engineers can assess the structural damage caused by the Oct. 17 earthquake. The bridge, which connects Corralitos Road to Browns Valley Road, has been closed since the quake.

# EQ-1989 - Watsonville Watsonville OKs Red Cross money split

By LANE WALLACE  
STAFF WRITER

The Watsonville City Council endorsed a plan for distribution of Red Cross money for earthquake relief last night, but not before complaining about the high cost of administration.

Of the \$3,528,000 the Red Cross has earmarked for Santa Cruz County, 10 percent is being set aside for administration, which

would be done by the county government.

Councilwoman Betty Murphy questioned the 10 percent administrative cost, and other council members joined in.

Mayor Todd McFarren, the city's representative on a committee that worked with county officials, said the Red Cross wants "heavy documentation" of how the money is being spent. The Red Cross suggested the 10 percent for administration, he said.

"We'll be making reports and they (the county) will be getting the money. We'll do the leg work," said Councilman Lowell Hurst.

McFarren said the county committee recommended the \$3.1 left after administrative costs be used for housing programs. Non-profit agencies in Watsonville will get 45 percent of the money. The council voted unanimously to endorse the distribution plan.

The \$3.1 million may not be the last of the Red Cross money coming to Santa Cruz County. There's a dispute going on in the San Francisco Bay Area over \$30 million in earthquake relief funds the Red Cross hasn't released.

Councilman Oscar Rios said the city should check into the matter and make sure it gets its share of any additional funds.

"Everybody is watching that closely," City Manager John Radin said, referring to the coverage the matter has been getting in San Francisco newspapers.

In other matters last night, the City Council:

- Approved an agreement with the Sterling Foundation of Oakland, which has offered to build a 6,440-square-foot neighborhood center at Marinovich, Park on Second Street. The foundation, which relies on donations of cash, supplies and labor for its projects, is planning to put up the building — worth about \$500,000 — at a cost of \$35,800 to the city.

- Approved a lot split for a proposed forensic crime lab at 440 Airport Blvd.

The state chose the site for its Tricounty forensic lab, which had been in Salinas. The lab had to move when asbestos was found in its building.

After two years of searching, the state chose the Airport Boulevard site. The city had worked with the state and other local agencies in finding the site.

- Councilwoman Betty Murphy asked that the council consider endorsing the visit of a U.S. Navy ship to Capitola on the Fourth of July. The city supported the Navy's visit to Capitola last year.

After the Santa Cruz City Council rejected the Navy's visit, Capitola extended its own invitation.

- Approved special use permits for a chiropractic office and weight-loss clinic at Pajaro Hill Shopping Center, at Main Street and South Green Valley Road.

Those uses are not permitted under the zoning for the center because they require more parking than for stores of the same size. The permit comes with the stipulation that in the future the city will be able to deny approval of uses with a high parking demand if there's a lack of parking at the center.

- Asked the city attorney to prepare a report on an ordinance that would restrict conversion of mobile home parks to other uses. The ordinance is being backed by homeowners groups in the city's major mobile home parks.

- Received a \$10,000 donation for earthquake relief from the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union, Local 393, San Jose.

- Denied, as a matter of procedure, three claims for damages filed against the city. One was from fired Planning Director Bud Carney, who says he was wrongfully terminated from his post last fall.

Another was from a woman claiming the city was responsible for the demolition with no notice of her home following the earthquake.

- Gave final approval to a map of Pennsylvania Place II, a 14-unit housing project by Silicon Valley Diversified. A representative said the company would be interested in discussing putting affordable housing on one of the larger lots.