

Forbus demands transfer of sidewalk funds

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Live Oak-Soquel Supervisor Dan Forbus befuddled members of the Live Oak Community Association yesterday when he rearranged funds in the county's road budget.

At Forbus' request, the supervisors transferred \$50,000 that was to go toward sidewalks on Paul Minnie Avenue between

Rodriguez Street and Green Acres School to preliminary studies on drainage and sidewalk improvements for Chanticleer Avenue.

Forbus insisted on the plan even though Public Works Director Don Porath told him that \$50,000 wouldn't be enough for all the engineering and design studies needed for the Chanticleer improvements. At the same time, Porath said,

there wouldn't be enough money left for the Paul Minnie sidewalks if the supervisors subtracted \$50,000 from the \$84,450 allocated to the project.

Members of the Live Oak Community Association and Santa Cruz-area Supervisor Gary Patton tried to dissuade Forbus, but the Live Oak supervisor stood firm.

Rather than have plans sit-

ting on a shelf for three to four years while the county obtains the half-million dollars needed for the Chanticleer Avenue improvements, Patton said, "I would put something on the ground that the kids could walk on to go to school."

Live Oak Community Association member Bob Bremner told the supervisors it would be "foolhardy" to gut the Paul

Minnie sidewalk project for a purely speculative study. Bremner said it would be much more practical and economical to conduct the Chanticleer studies once the supervisors had money to go ahead with the project.

Bremner hinted that Forbus might be trying to help developers who wanted to build an Orchard Supply hardware store

at Chanticleer and Soquel avenues. When the proposal was submitted to the county for design review, the developers learned they might be required to improve Chanticleer as a condition for approval from the project.

According to Zoning Administrator Mark Deming the developers were discouraged by the stiff condition.

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