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Board puts Wingspread on 'fast track' schedule

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SANTA CRUZ — Supervisors formally adopted a schedule that speeds up processing of the controversial Wingspread Beach project in Aptos.

At Tuesday's hearing, supervisors adopted a "fast track" schedule to bring the Wingspread Beach Plan B development — for 295 condominium units, three performing arts facilities and sports fields — to public hearing by the end of February.

The timeline adopted Tuesday is a compromise between two proposals submitted last week. One from Supervisor Robley Levy called for a deadline of Jan. 31; the other by Planning Director Kris Schenk pushed it back to May.

The schedule assumes that the applicant, Hare, Brewer and Kelley, gets all its plans in for review by the Planning Department by the numerous deadlines outlined in the schedule.

Attorney Richard Allen, for Kelley, said he had no hesitation in assuring super-

visors of that. He was on the phone with his client all day, he said, and was told the architects could meet the time line.

Allen said the developer could meet a schedule, pushed by Levy, for even faster consideration. But that motion, made by Supervisor Wayne Moore, died for lack of a second. As chairwoman, Levy can't make or second motions.

The revised schedule also assumes no one will appeal any aspect of the environmental review process.

As passed, the schedule gives County Administrative Officer George Newell the authority to sign off a contract with the EIR consultants for Wingspread — an option that didn't sit well with either Moore or Levy, who preferred the tighter time frame.

Under the revised schedule, the applicant may be able to meet earlier deadlines, thus moving up the project to a January consideration.

The county is bound by legal time limits on some of the aspects of the processing schedule, and also has to review plans for grading and solar access.