

Developer buys more property downtown

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SANTA CRUZ — Shopping center developer Jay Paul has purchased the Pacific Avenue property next to his lot where the Cooper House once stood and is moving ahead with plans to link the sites.

The property is a key anchor-type site for Santa Cruz's downtown. It has been vacant earth bordered by a chain link fence since the Cooper House and the adjacent Odd Fellows Building were demolished after the 1989 earthquake.

Paul said Friday that he exercised an option to buy the Odd Fellows site and will resubmit previ-

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ously approved development plans to the city.

"We want to work with him to get a project approved and filled with good quality office tenants," said city redevelopment director Ceil Cirillo.

Paul's plans for the Cooper House corner at Pacific Avenue and Cooper Street were held up by difficulties in financing. Paul's plans call for a five-story building with a restaurant and retail shops on the ground floor and offices above.

A lack of confirmed tenants hurt efforts to obtain financing. Fast-growing computer software maker TGV Inc. is a rumored potential tenant for some of the office space.