More Wingspread Snags

Project has more rooms than plan revealed



THE Wingspread development project in Aptos ran into another snag last week, when county planners found that the 295-room proposal included self-contained apartments attached by a door which could be locked, raising the actual number of units to 585.

Presently, the 67-acre, Porter-Sesnon property off Highway 1, across from Cabrillo College is zoned for no more than 197 units.

 Originally proposed as 630 units with a convention center and a community performing arts complex, Wingspread was cited last May by the local Coats Consulting Company for having at least 11 negative effects on the surrounding environment.

Those effects included the high erosion risks that structures on the ground's slope would pose as well as the threat to vegetation and wildlife in the area.

Hare, Brewer and Kelley last
August offered seven acres of the
prime property to the county in
exchange for approval of its project.
But the developers face stiff opposition from county supervisors, who
must decide whether to grant the
development a zoning variance.

If a vote were taken today, the proposal would hinge on the swing vote of Robley Levy, who's not taken a public position on Wingspread but is known as a moderate environmentalist.

The June 5 election could change the board majority; since Levy is facing more conservative challengers Dave Tunno and Beverly Moore who support the Wingspread with some qualifications. A third contender for the supervisor seat, Louis D'Arrigo, is also supportive.