

Libraries - 1970-1979
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County Library Support: 65 Percent

The county of Santa Cruz is expected to pay about 65 percent of the \$1.22 million budget set for the county-city library system by the Santa Cruz City Council last Thurs-

day, Librarian Charles Atkins said today.

The budget represents a 15 percent slash by the council in the \$1.4 million budget proposed and will necessitate numerous cutbacks, Atkins told the Library Board this morning (see related story on Page 1).

The city of Santa Cruz is expected to pay about 35 percent of the costs.

The county will pay \$791,950 and the city \$426,436 under a funding formula through which each government jurisdiction pays on the basis of book circulation. Since county residents account for about two-thirds of the circulation, the county pays about two-thirds of the costs.

Atkins developed a new budget line by line Friday after the city council had slashed his first budget by 15 percent.

In the amended budget the library administration account is up by less than \$400 over last year. Administrative expenses are cut in half, from some \$85,000 to \$44,000, bringing the total costs for administration to \$90,443, down from \$130,793.

Library technical services will cost less, too, dropping to \$249,637 from \$274,272, with \$135,000 of this allotted to books and periodicals.

The main library, which serves city and county residents and acts as a book clearinghouse for the system, will

get \$309,645, compared with \$337,984 last year.

The branch libraries will be cut to \$487,583 from \$564,687.

Atkins told the board he believes the county will accept the \$1.22 million budget approved by the city.

Under Proposition 13, property taxes levied by both the county and the city to support the libraries will be reduced by some 56 percent. Hence the sharp budget cuts.

In other business today, the Library Board continued for another year its policy of holding its monthly meetings the first Monday of the month at 7:30 a.m. in the main library conference room.

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