

Capitola annexation request squeaks by; future uncertain

CAPITOLA — Only one vote separates residents of the Surf and Sand Mobile Home Park who want to be annexed to Capitola from those who don't.

A special election to determine whether residents of the park on 47th Avenue near Portola Drive wanted to be part of Capitola recorded 21 residents who favored the annexation and 20 against. Sixteen ballots

were not returned in the mail election.

The results of the election will be passed on to the City Council for its Aug. 22 meeting. Technically, council members can proceed with the annexation since only a majority vote was needed. Because the vote was so close, however, the council may decide to drop the attempt.

According to Planning Director Steve Russell, the city initiated the

annexation "since most people feel the park is already part of the city." The park is in an unincorporated pocket of land and presently is part of the county.

The election was necessitated after Surf and Sand park owners, Robert and Nancy Reed, protested the annexation. The proposed annexation takes in the park, as well as a strip of land along 47th Avenue and the railroad tracks.