

# State action improves jail funding outlook

The possibility of Santa Cruz County's getting additional federal funding to assist in building a new jail is looking up.

Wednesday in Sacramento it was recommended the county be awarded \$750,000 out of Federal Law Enforcement Assistance funds to be dispersed next year by the California Council on Criminal Justice.

Bob Nyman, county administrative officer, in making the announcement Thursday, said the committee recommendation, if followed by the commission at its Nov. 3 meeting would make

it possible for the county to call for bids on the jail next month.

The county already has received \$1.2 million in such funding for the facility estimated to cost \$7 million.

Nyman said, "The remaining \$5 million will have to be provided from county funds, and the board of supervisors has received a preliminary report indicating how this can be done, using a combination of prior, current and future year appropriations, but not without difficulty."

The county administrator credited Douglas R. Cun-

ningham, executive director of the state office of criminal justice planning, for the ultimate decision to recommend the Santa Cruz funding.

Nyman said Cunningham not only recommended the award but indicated he was personally convinced from his meeting with county supervisors and staff that the county could not build the facility without the financial assistance.

If granted, the award would give Santa Cruz County half of the much sought-after funds budgeted for the entire state next year.

# Green Sheet

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