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Lipton Tea Plan Swiftly Okayed By Planners

By Don Righetti
Sentinel Staff Writer

It was a tea party for Lipton Wednesday night.

Thomas J. Lipton Inc. got approval for its mammoth \$3 million food processing plant without a hitch.

As a matter of fact, the Lipton presentation was the shortest item on the Santa Cruz City Planning Commission agenda. Commissioners were familiar with the project, had been informed that it met all codes and requirements and gave it a swift okay.

Planning Assistant Jim Shaffer said, "The staff is very pleased with the project."

Commissioners also expressed their pleasure that the project, long in the planning stages, at last is to be launched.

A strong contingent turned out from the Santa Cruz Area

Chamber of Commerce to shepherd the project through any difficulties with the commission. But they noted the reception the project was getting from commissioners, and didn't even bother to add to the presentation.

The plant, to be located at the west edge of Santa Cruz at the corner of Delaware Avenue and West Cliff Drive, will process tea, packaged soups and salad dressing.

It will employ approximately 330 persons on a round-the-clock basis five days a week.

Architect Don Geddes indicated there were plans for future expansion, but did not elaborate. He said bids for construction were to be opened September 22.

Other items considered by planners include:

REZONING — A request by

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Slaying Suspect Requests