

## Provisional okay for Aptos plan

The Aptos Village Plan was approved Tuesday night by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors.

The plan, which has been years in the making and is designed to give the village a unique character and a self-sufficient mix of residential and commercial development, won the approval of just about everybody except for some disagreement over traffic design.

The planning staff had originally recommended some one-way traffic patterns in the village, but there was resistance to that. One plan called for one-way traffic on Trout Gulch Road from Soquel Drive to Cathedral Drive. This would require the extension of Granite Way through to connect with Hopkins Road (the entry road to Nisene Marks State Park), providing for a circular route around the village.

Another plan calls for the retention of two-way traffic as is, with the extension of Granite Way also included. This would require some signalization of the intersections of Trout Gulch and Hopkins with Soquel Drive.

Most of the Aptos residents who spoke on the matter Tuesday night, led by Chamber of Commerce President Lucile Aldrich, urged the board to adopt the plan in concept but to leave the traffic decision until later.

But because approval of the plan also necessitated an amendment to the General Plan, the board faced a dilemma. It is allowed to amend the General Plan but three times in one year. The board had several other such amendments on the agenda Tuesday and the law says that if the board approves any number of amendments at one sitting,

this can be counted as only one amendment. For that reason, the supervisors didn't want to put off action on the Aptos plan.

In the end, the board approved the plan in concept and included in it two alternative traffic patterns — one a one-way pattern and the other two-way — with the final decision to be made later.