

Could Delay Project

Urban
Renewal 9-20-63

3-Story Limit On Courthouse Disclosed

By Len Klemptner

Oops!

Somebody goofed.

The proposed five-story county office building in the San Lorenzo Park redevelopment project is two levels too tall.

The agreement between the county and Santa Cruz Redevelopment agency limits buildings on the 10-acre parcel to three levels.

The pact has not been revised since the county originally planned to build a three-story building.

The county-agency agreement was signed in March, 1961. That's the same month the University of California decided to develop a campus in Santa Cruz.

Because of the anticipated increase in growth the university would bring to the county, county officials altered ideas for an adequate courthouse complex project. The new idea was to build up—skyward.

Agency Director Martha Gion—by happenstance—noted the height restriction yesterday.

She said the agency board is empowered to make "minor" revisions at the local level to the park plan.

However, she isn't certain if the additional two stories is considered "minor."

County Counsel Bill Card, who double-checked the agreement today, confirmed the height limitation standard.

He said the agency has approved the courthouse complex plans, however, so he assumes the agency board was cognizant of the restriction. He reasoned this would be a "minor" revision within the local agency's jurisdiction.

But Mrs. Gion said the agency board only approved the site plan layout. Building elevation was not acted on.

County Administrative Officer Ed Hane said the agency board is aware of the county's intention to build a five-level office building. It was called to the agency's attention when the site plan was presented by architect Burton Rockwell of San Francisco.

No one mentioned the height limit at that July 12 agency meeting, Hane said.

Mrs. Gion said the decision on whether two additional stories falls within the province of a "minor" change to the park plan would have to be made by Lewis Yapp, agency attorney.

Yapp was out of town this morning.

If Yapp rules two more stories rests outside the local agency's jurisdiction, then federal approval must be given, County Counsel Card said.

Federal approval could take six to eight months, Card added.

This could throw a monkey wrench into the bidding works on the courthouse project. Supervisors hope to have the project out to bid in six months.

Supervisors Tuesday told Rockwell to proceed with final working drawings, after approving preliminary plans on the overall \$3.9 million complex.

PHEASANT SEASON GO AHEAD GIVEN

Sacramento (AP) — The state gave the go-ahead for pheasant hunting as scheduled in California today after a study showed a drop in pesticide residues in the birds.

NFL Investigation Of Former Giant Grid Star Under Way

Memphis, Tenn. (AP) — The Press-Scimitar was informed today that Commissioner Pete Rozelle of the National Football League is investigating several checks written by Maurice I. Lewis, Memphis developer, and cashed by Charles (Chuck) Conerly, star quarterback with the New York Giants until his retirement in February, 1962.

The NFL acknowledged in New York that it was looking into the matter.

Lewis was indicted January 8, by the Shelby County grand jury on football gambling charges and now is awaiting trial.

One of the checks — for \$3500 — was dated November 6, 1961, while Conerly was still on the Giants' roster. He retired after that year after 14 seasons with the Giants.

Conerly said he had lent money to Lewis. Both said the checks were in repayment of a loan.

Five checks endorsed by Conerly, totaling \$9575, were produced

at Lewis' recent bankruptcy hearing before Carl Graves, federal referee in bankruptcy.

Lewis testified the checks represented "repayment of loans" made to him by Conerly. He said he and Conerly had been friends for "many, many years . . . as far back as 1946. . . ."

Jim Hamilton, special assistant to NFL Commissioner Rozelle in New York, told the Press-Scimitar:

"We intend to talk with Conerly about the checks. He may have a good explanation, but we certainly intend to get to the bottom of it."

The copyrighted story was written by James J. White of the Memphis Press-Scimitar.

In Clarksdale, Miss., Conerly's home town, he first refused to talk about the checks.

"It's nobody's business what I do with my private life," he said.

Later, he said: "I loaned Maurice the money. That's all. I don't see anything wrong with that."

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