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# Board Again Promises Site Decision To City By Oct. 13

By Jack Rannells

"I am very confident that on October 13 the city will have a very definite answer on county plans for the redevelopment area—definite to the point where there will be no interferences with progress of the project."

This was the view of Mayor Ted Foster yesterday after a luncheon meeting of the city council and county supervisors, at the Colonial Inn, called by the mayor.

Confidence of other council members during and after the session was not so deep-seated.

However, their wariness was in the face of repeated assurance by each of the four supervisors present that there would be a definite decision on October 13, a date they set earlier this month.

Dr. Foster called the joint meeting to settle the question of proposed location of a county courthouse in the San Lorenzo park redevelopment area.

The county owns a three-acre parcel and has an option to purchase four additional acres of URA land. A \$3.5 million bond election for the courthouse was defeated in June. Protesting petitions were widely circulated when the supervisors announced in July that they intended to purchase the URA parcel.

Dr. Foster prefaced open discussion at the luncheon with a request for "immediate action" by the supervisors.

As most important of five reasons for the request, he cited costs of delay—\$337 daily with an aggregate of about \$200,000.

Questioned on these figures later by San Lorenzo Valley Supervisor Vincent Locatelli, the mayor explained that they include wages of redevelopment agency staff and increased interest on extension of federal loans.

"It makes no difference where the money is going—if it's dollars down the drain I want to see it stopped," Dr. Foster said.

Lewis Nelson, chairman of the board, obviously irked by the one-sided nature of the discussion, charged:

"This is not a one-way thing, it has not been and probably won't be. If you are going to put the county on the spot, I want you to be ready to follow through on whatever decision we make."

Dr. Foster admitted that the county indecision is not the only reason for delays in the development of the project.

"It is the most apparent one," the mayor said, "and we will take the others as they come."

He said he expected the supervisors' decision October 13 to include estimates of how much land would be required by the county, if it is to participate in the redevelopment project.

Pajaro Supervisor Francis Silliman, perhaps anticipating a call for a "straw vote" of the

supervisors on their stand on the issue, adamantly stated that no poll would serve a purpose until the return of Walter Merrill from a trip to Mexico. The October 13 date coincides with Merrill's return.

Councilman Harold Carriger then asked, "If a decision before his return is impractical, why can't you call him back?"

Councilman Bert Snyder said, "I can't see handing over \$300 a day on simple courtesy."

Neither of the two nor Paul Forgey seemed confident after the session that the October 13 deadline would be met.

Dr. Foster said that county delays not only have been costly in dollar terms but that they were straining relations between the local redevelopment agency and federal officials.

They also have caused delays in superior court suits for the few parcels remaining in private hands, Foster said. He and URA Director Olin Carl White said that parcels on either side of the San Lorenzo river cannot reasonably be offered for sale separately.

## AF Produces Sky-Lighting Chemical Cloud

Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. (AP).—The air force lit up the skies just before dawn today with a chemically produced orange and pink cloud.

A Nike-Cajun rocket lofted the chemicals, including barium, in a nose cone to more than 50 miles above the earth's surface. Technicians estimated the pastel colored cloud could be seen at a distance of up to about 400 miles.

The launching marked the start of a series of experiments in a study of the composition and quality of the upper atmosphere.

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