

Ben Lomond 7-13-82

Water Officials Want To Help

San Lorenzo Valley Water District Directors are looking for an agreeable way to improve storm damaged roads and upgrade a water supply in the Azalea Avenue/Condor Avenue of Ben Lomond.

A side effect of the improvements would be to assist the family of Ron and Carolyn Heine — who are trying to move and rebuild their Love Creek home which was condemned by the county following the January flood.

The Heines have been given a parcel in the Condor Avenue area by a benefactor, but they cannot rebuild their home there until a new water line is built to close a loop in the water system.

The parcel is in a double moratorium area for water hookups, but water district directors will consider granting the Heines a hardship exemption at their meeting on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the water district office in Boulder Creek.

In the meantime, District Manager Ed Steffani has sent out letters to the owners of 92 parcels in the Azalea Avenue/Condor Avenue area asking them to participate in a joint venture to repair Azalea Avenue — a road which is not maintained by the county — and to upgrade the water lines.

Steffani has suggested forming an assessment district to pay for the estimated cost of repair to Azalea Avenue of about \$30,000. An exact figure cannot be determined until more engineering studies are completed, said Steffani.

The cost to each property owner in the assessment district would be \$51 per year over a 15-year period.

The total amount is higher than what property owners would pay if they agreed to pay for the road repair all at once without forming an assessment district. The one time cost would amount to \$326 per parcel, reported Steffani.

Another assessment district could be formed to pay for upgrading the water system, according to Steffani's letter.

The upgrading of the water lines would be better done if it were completed in conjunction with the road repair, Steffani stated.

According to Steffani, the upgrading of the water line would increase water service and make progress toward better fire protection.

The water manager has suggested the \$18,000 cost of repairing the water lines be shared by the water district, the Heines and by the other 48 property owners who are serviced by the water line.

If the water district provided \$6,000, the share for each of the 48 property owners would be \$16 per year on top of the \$51 per year to be paid for the road repair.

Steffani asks for comments from the property owners.

The water district manager noted the water district has already added a 75,000-gallon reservoir above Harvard Drive in 1981 and built a new pipeline off Hihn Road to Melin Avenue. This has eliminated the need for the upper Condor area to depend upon a substandard pumping station for water service and has increased water storage from 10,000 to 135,000 gallons.