

Santa Cruz Is Now Officially California's First Planetary City

Mayor Michael Rotkin officially proclaimed the city of Santa Cruz California's first "Planetary City" during brief and simple ceremonies at City Hall Sunday.

Rotkin, amidst banners and balloons and persons carrying placards, was one of several speakers who described the options of peace.

The mayor's official proclamation came in the wake of the City Council's unanimous resolution that Santa Cruz is now a Planetary City "dedicated to international cooperation and just world law."

Some speakers told of the continuing work of the Planetary Initiative campaign, a grassroots movement which began with a simultaneous "kickoff" on

Feb. 9, 1982, after being founded in 1981 by 60 co-founders in New York.

Santa Cruz became the second West Coast city to adopt Planetary City status. Seattle is a Planetary City, and Minnesota was proclaimed a Planetary State by its legislature.

Sunday, the hopes expressed by Rotkin and other speakers were symbolized when all present, including youngsters and the elderly, joined hands in two concentric circles in a free-form benediction: a song for peace.

More than 25 sponsoring groups, including the Sister City Commission, were represented in the observance and later joined in a festive picnic and games at San Lorenzo Park.



6-8-82

Planetary Speaker

Gordon Feller, executive director of Planetary Citizens will speak Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church fellowship hall, 2500 Soquel Drive. The public is invited. His topic will be "The Planetary Initiative for the World We Choose." He is a graduate of Columbia University. Planetary Citizens, with headquarters at the United Nations, is a worldwide grassroots organization of people concerned with the issues of war, peace, ecology, hunger and poverty. Feller will be in Santa Cruz Wednesday and can be contacted by calling 425-1460. Anyone interested in meeting him may attend a potluck supper at 6 p.m.