

City will present annexation plans

Clifford-Arthur area up for LAFCO vote

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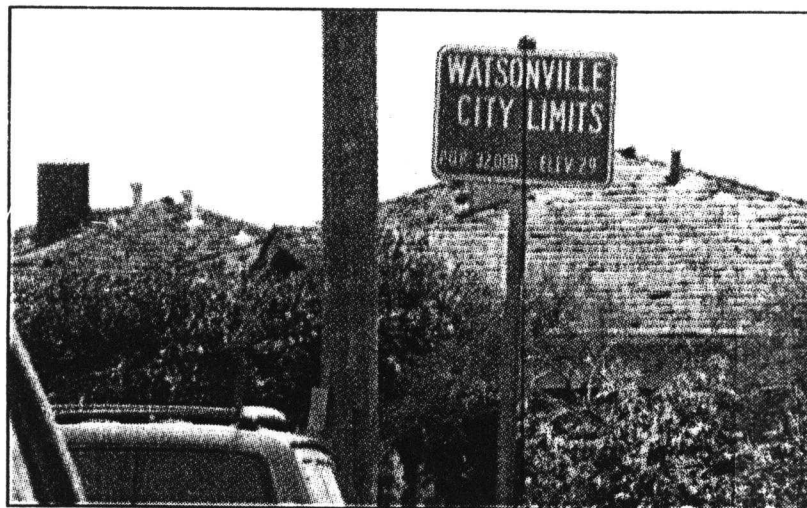
SANTA CRUZ — Watsonville city officials will present the city's future annexation plans Wednesday to the Local Agency Formation Commission, the agency that oversees annexations.

The city has approved three annexations of mostly residential land in the last year, and is on the verge of annexing another.

The city staff is pushing for annexation of 216 acres off Riverside Drive for an industrial park, but the City Council is split on the issue and no decisions have been made.

Annexations around Carnation Manor (near Watsonville Community Hospital), and Monument Lumber (on Freedom Boulevard) and the area around Freedom School have been annexed in the last year.

Another annexation, known as the Clifford-Arthur area, goes before LAFCO for a vote Tuesday. If LAFCO approves, the matter comes back to the City Council for final



Michael McCollum

An area along Arthur Road is being proposed for annexation.

approval.

Approval is expected, because there have been six public steps in the process, and no opposition from the residents.

The area covers 200 homes off Arthur Road and Clifford Avenue, and the side streets off Clifford.

A group of property owners have

talked to the city about annexing most of the urbanized area of Freedom, except areas north of Watsonville Municipal Airport. No applications have been submitted.

LAFCO members will also consider appointment of an alternate board member, an issue they were

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deadlocked on at their last meeting, in April.

LAFCO is made up of six elected public officials from different jurisdictions in the county, and one public member. There's an alternate for each member.

Former county Supervisor Rob-ley Levy was appointed to the alternate public member post in January

for the remaining four months of an unexpired term.

In April, LAFCO members were split on whether to reappoint Levy or somebody new.

The names of Watsonville businessmen Jose Torres and Elias Alonzo were discussed, but there were not enough votes to put them in, nor were there enough votes for Levy.

LAFCO meets at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday at the County Governmental Center, 701 Ocean St.