

Lighthouse Point Zoning Approved

By Don Righetti
Sentinel Staff Writer

Another obstacle fell away from the proposed convention center Lighthouse Point development last night when the Santa Cruz City Planning Commission voted unanimously to zone the 37-acre site to permit construction.

The presentation of the \$20-million project drew a large crowd to the city council chambers, but most members of the audience were there to ask questions about the big development, not to criticize it.

The only real objection came from Mrs. H. R. Lans who charged that the promotion of the lower Highway 1 freeway alternate routes was merely a scheme to provide quick access to the convention center development.

Architect Art Wiener, who headed the project presentation team, countered that the choice of a Highway 1 alternate would have no effect on the development. He said that major access to Lighthouse Point would be via the proposed Highway 100 "beach loop," and until the loop is constructed,

via Bay Street and Pelton Avenue.

Mrs. Lans retorted that the word is out among convention-eering groups that Santa Cruz is a center of drug use and no one would come here on a convention, anyway.

She charged that the public had been "swindled in many ways" on the convention center and that the county supervisors had not even read the center's joint powers agreement before they signed it.

She wondered whether she should be registering her protests before the planning commission or whether she should keep her powder dry for a salvo before a higher body.

"I don't think this is the place I should be saying this," she commented.

D. U. Fischer, acting commission chairman, replied, "I don't think it is, either."

Mrs. Lois Crafts said she was in favor of the development, but thought the planned tourist village should follow a Spanish or Early California motif rather

(Continued on Page 2.)