

# Convention Center Schematic Drawings Approved

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Schematic drawings of a convention center that emphasizes dining and meeting room facilities at Lighthouse Point were approved Tuesday with little change by the Joint Powers Authority.

Authority members instructed Dreyfuss and Blackford Architects and Planners of Sacramento to proceed with working drawings that should be ready by Feb. 1.

The authority set May 15 as its target date for construction to begin, but a necessary factor will be a hotel next to the convention center being built then too.

Teachers Management Investment, which is funding the proposed 236-room Hilton Hotel adjacent to the convention center, has indicated it plans to start building in May.

The convention center, which will be on a five-acre parcel on Pelton Avenue between Laguna Street and Lighthouse Avenue, will have 46,000 square

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feet. That includes a 24,000-square-foot exhibit space that could hold an auditorium assembly of 3000 persons, several meeting rooms, two offices, a kitchen, storage room and rest rooms.

The center will have a ceiling height of 16 to 18 feet and a metal facies with concrete beams and large windows facing the mountains and Monterey Bay. The building may be raised to provide a better view and

parking will be on street level to the east.

Al Dreyfuss said the plans "here are different from what was planned a few years ago." Then, the large exhibit space was planned mainly for displays

and shows, but it is now scheduled "mainly for dining and meeting," Dreyfuss said. He expects the area to be carpeted entirely, and said the main hall could be divided into three sections.

Should the final drawings be approved Feb. 1 by the authority, it would then present them to the Santa Cruz City Council and county board of supervisors for approval, with Feb. 15 anticipated as a time to call for bids.

The timetable shows bids may be opened and a contract awarded, pending sale of necessary bonds, on March 15. Bonds may then be sold to finalize the contract and construction would commence May 15 if the hotel starts at the same time.

If this schedule is followed, the authority foresees the convention center being ready to open in June, 1972. Once built, the center will be financed through the room tax and probably operated by the city as an agent for the Joint Powers Authority.

Still to be worked out is what an arcade between the center and hotel will look like.

Dreyfuss said it is questionable because of limited funds whether a patio area around the center can be included.

### Typographical Error Scrambles Statement

Due to a typographical error part of Santa Cruz City Councilman Al Castagnola's statement on the city general plan timetable did not read correctly in Wednesday's Sentinel.

The eighth paragraph should have read: "He (Castagnola) said since the Citizens Planning Advisory Committee has completed its report and the (planning) commission has reviewed

it for common goals, the need now is to see if the proposals are practical and economically feasible."

The last paragraph should have read: "Some of the planning advisory committee's recommendations have been termed 'different' and 'revolutionary,' such as no new freeways being constructed to Santa Cruz

County, citing a clear distinction between population and economic growth, and limiting population growth so Santa Cruz does not become a 'San Jose by-the sea'."

The timetable calls for research up to Feb. 1, report preparation to April 30, and for public hearings to begin at the planning commission level May

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Seat belts should be worn by pregnant women to stop them from being ejected from autos involved in accidents, a report issued by the California Highway Patrol states.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A new agency has been set up by the Teamsters Union and the Merchants and Manufacturers Associations here to find jobs for about 50,000 ex-convicts.