Baseball gives \$1.4 million to quake relief

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Santa Cruz County will get the largest share of a nearly \$1.4 million earthquake-relief fund set up by major league baseball.

County Supervisor Robley Levy said this morning distribution of the "Northern California Earthquake Fund" was the topic of a meeting she attended Friday in the office of San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos.

Levy said she thought the baseball leagues donated the money — which totalled \$1,395,250.69 last week — for several reasons, including that they were at the heart of the earthquake when it interrupted the World Series, that they have an understanding of the damage it caused and because of "their good hearts in reaching out to people who were damaged by it."

Watsonville Mayor Betty Murphy also attended the meeting, as

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Santa Cruz.

"State legislation will be pro

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did representatives of other counties, including Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, Alameda, San Mateo and, of course, San Francisco. A Marin County representative appeared briefly to announce his county would not be filing a claim for part of the money, a move that Levy called "magnanimous."

"The consensus was very strong that the distribution level should be reflective proportionally of the damage to individuals," Levy said, "and should not reflect the infrastructure cost."

United Way figures of the number of damaged homes in each jurisdiction and of the unemployment rate were used to determine each county's proportional share of the money, Levy said, and Santa Cruz came out on top with 26.53 percent of the fund.

Alameda County was next with 20.36 percent, San Francisco will receive 16.49 percent, Santa Clara will get 14.11 percent, San Benito 13.37 percent, Monterey 5.36 percent and San Mateo 3.76 percent.

Levy said she would ask the Board of Supervisors tomorrow to send a letter to Agnos formally approving the distribution plan and informing him of the county's Earthquake Relief Fund so the money can be sent to that fund.

Because the baseball leagues donated the money with the intention of helping earthquake victims, Levy said Santa Cru County's share would likely go torganizations that could distribut it directly to victims.