

State Grants Watsonville Hospital OK For \$14.6 Million Expansion

Final approval for the proposed Watsonville Community Hospital expansion and remodeling has been granted by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, according to Mortie Walser, hospital administrator.

The \$14.6 million project calls for the addition of 24 medical-surgical beds and the renovation and construction of emergency, critical care, maternity facilities and ancillary services, including pharmacy and laboratory.

A fund-raising drive will begin this autumn to raise \$1.75 million, with the balance of the construction cost to be financed through tax-exempt bonds issued by the city of Watsonville.

Construction is expected to begin early next year, Walser said.

SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL
July 10, 1981