

County Seeks To Spur State On Schwan Lake

By Wallace Wood
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The state will soon have its long sleep on the Schwann lake project jagged a bit because of private developer Royce Kaufmann's demands to use part of the lake for apartments.

County supervisors yesterday ordered a delegation to contact the state Department of Parks and Recreation within the next six weeks to see if they will buy Kaufmann's property along East Cliff Drive near 12th Avenue. The move might also bump the state into some action on park development, which has been stagnant for over 10 years.

Kaufmann's attorney, Dennis Kehoe, predicted failure for the mission, however. He said Kaufmann has been trying to either sell the land to

the state or be allowed to use it for the last six years.

Kehoe said he wanted an immediate rezoning to RM-100 or RM-V apartment and visitor-apartment uses so Kaufmann can build into the rim of the lake.

John A. Cruze, head of what he said is a 2000-member Schwann Lake Park Conservation Committee, opposed Kaufmann's plans to build on the lake. He called the lake "our" lake and asked "since when do we allow persons to build on our rivers and our lakes?"

But Cruze boosted the determination of supervisors to get action out of the state when he revealed the state has had plans to develop the lake since 1945. Cruze noted the state took possession of most of the lake in 1955 and still has not acted on park development. But the pur-

chase did not include what is now Kaufmann's land.

Kehoe argued that it's a matter of "fish or cut bait," and that Kaufmann has a right to use his property if the state won't buy it or condemn it. He said the state's supposed plans "have overshadowed the complete hearings on this."

Kehoe noted the state's Monterey Bay Area representative, Harry Dean, admitted the state has \$780,000 in the till to spend on Twin Lakes and Schwann Lake.

Kaufmann offered to give 29,000 square feet of the lake, which he owns, to the state or county if he is allowed to develop. He charged that he has tried to submit development plans to the county times, "but they were turned down every time." Black re-

marked that it is unfair to hold up a developer just to please the state. "The best way to get the state off the dime is to rezone it. I can't see using the county as a foil to get what the state wants."

Nevertheless, Supervisor Robert Burton said he didn't want to "leave a stone unturned be-

fore turning this lake over to private interests. We ought to put it up to the state to make a decision, but we should not abandon the lake."

So supervisors continued the matter for six weeks and ordered a delegation of planning and public works officials to contact the state for action.

last two days!



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