Opening soon

Work on bridges almost done

By STEVE PEREZ Sentinel staff writer

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SANTA CRUZ — Repairs on the quakedamaged Small Craft Harbor and Murray Street railroad bridges are nearly finished, and both are expected to open by April 15, according to Jim Feeney, assistant public works director for Santa Cruz.

In addition, the East Cliff bridge, which was under construction when the quake hit Oct. 17, is due to be finished by late April or early May, he said.

The restoration of the crosstown route, which has been shut down since the quake, should help alleviate at least part of the city's traffic woes, Feeney said.

"We certainly hope it sure will. When we get the corridor back up, it should give us some relief. We've been having a lot of congestion on the Seabright corridor."

Motorists from the east side who normally used the route to get across town have been forced onto Soquel Drive and Water Street, where traffic has been moving at a snail's pace during the morning and afternoon rush hours.

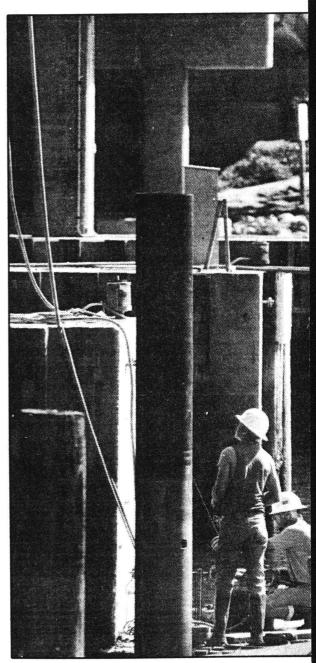
Feeney said the approximate value of the quake repairs to the Small Craft Harbor and Ocean Villa bridges was \$250.000.

The East Cliff Drive project cost about \$1.4 million, Feeney said.



Bill Loveioy/Sentinel

The East Cliff-Murray Street span over the railroad tracks is now complete.



Workers at the harbor bridge strengthen a sup