

Supervisor says:

Cities attracting workers from other areas should help county pay for public services

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SANTA CRUZ — Cities attracting workers to new industries should help pay for public services needed in the unincorporated area, according to Second (Capitola-Aptos) District Supervisor Robley Levy.

Levy made this suggestion Tuesday as the board reviewed a draft report on serious deficiencies in public services particularly in Live Oak, Soquel and Aptos.

All three areas suffer from inadequate roads, poor drainage, crowded schools, little or no parkland and piecemeal sidewalks, curbs and gutters. Additionally, Live Oak has no library and Soquel has only a small one, run by volunteers.

But these are the areas slated for the most population growth over the next six years, according to the report.

A large part of the problem, according to Susan Blair, author of the report, is that these areas are becoming bedroom communities for those getting jobs in the cities.

Levy asked that when the report comes back Dec. 13 for a public hearing, it address her suggestion for revenue shar-

ing between the cities and the county to finance public service improvements.

Blair plans to analyze the balance of housing and jobs in the second phase of the report. In the first phase, she got a rough indication by looking at the fast-growing electric and electronic equipment industry.

"In the period between 1979 and 1983, approximately 4,787 jobs were created in the micro-electric and high-technology industry alone, and approximately 5,480 to 5,530 housing units were built," the report states.

The problem is the jobs are in the cities where few houses are being built.

Between 1979 and 1981, for instance, Scotts Valley created 3,751 jobs in the electronics industry alone and only 121 houses, according to the report.

The same imbalance is expected to occur in the future in Watsonville and Santa Cruz. Capitola appears to be the only city that won't have an affect on housing in the unincorporated area, with no large industrial developments planned there.

"It should be noted that Watsonville has plans for an additional 5,144 jobs in the

micro-electronic and high technology field alone over the next five years and plans for only approximately 1,150 housing units.

"The city of Santa Cruz is also aware of plans for the UCSC Research and Development Park which will bring about 2,000 high technology-related jobs over the next few years," the report states.

Supervisor Gary Patton attempted to knock down the notion that these new jobs are helping the county's unemployed. He noted the report shows 2,900 jobs created between 1979-83, while unemployment rose from 6,800 to 12,200.

Supervisor E. Wayne Moore Jr, on the opposite side of the political spectrum from Patton, said the state of the economy had something to do with this. Reaganomics, he said, has to be given time to work.

Anybody who believes in Reaganomics, with its huge budget deficits, is "Oblivious to reality," Patton replied.

The report resurrected the old growth versus no growth argument. One suggestion in the report is to reduce the growth in these three areas beyond the rate now set by the county growth control or-

finance until public service can be brought up to par.

Cecelia Cooper, an Aptos property owner, expressed fear that the report will bring about a growth moratorium affecting the buildable land she owns.

To say "no growth" is politically unfeasible, Patton added. He suggested concentrating on small sections within each of the three communities. As soon as a small section is brought up to standard, then it would be time to move to another, Patton said.

There's no way to control growth, Supervisor Dan Forbus stated. Even with growth control since 1978, the latest census showed population increasing more than expected with people simply doubling up in available housing, Forbus said.

Dave Tunno, candidate in June for Levy's board seat, chastized the report for attempting to create "paranoia over possible growth."

Tunno suggested dealing with the problem by collecting fees for public services from property owners and then planning the public services necessary to keep up with orderly growth.