Wingspread foes reject Levy recall

By STEVE SHENDER

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SANTA CRUZ - Opponents of Palo Alto developer Ryland Kelley's Wingspread Beach project said Tuesday that they would not attempt to pened on March 11, 1986 mount a recall drive against Second District Supervisor Robley Levy, who cast the deciding vote on the development last week.

But they promised to hold the Aptos supervisor accountable for her vote and vowed to "fight

Wingspread to the very end."

Appearing before the Board of Supervisors Tuesday afternoon, Friends of Porter-Sesnon Chairwoman Vickie Powell-Murray said that while the "desire to recall Levy is very understandable, Friends of Porter-Sesnon does not believe that recall is an appropriate mechanism to hold Supervisor Levy accountable for undermining the environmental and neighborhood protection values which she has professed to hold, or an appropriate method to find a new candidate for the Second District supervisorial seat."

Powell-Murray said the group, which has spearheaded opposition to Kelley's plans to build a condominium-conference center complex, athletic fields and a performing arts center on the 66acre Porter-Sesnon property, would "find other ways" to hold Levy to account.

She said her organization, together with other unnamed groups, would begin a "Levy-Watch" to "monitor" the supervisor's votes between now and the 1988 election, "review her past votes and determine what her record really is.

"We will not forget two years from now what happened on March 11, 1986 (when the board voted 3-2 for conceptual approval of Wingspread),"

Powell-Murray said.

Though Levy cast the decisive vote in the split decision, she imposed a number of conditions on the project. Levy insisted, among other things, on a 20-percent reduction in the number of condominium units which Kelley would be allowed to "direct freeway access" to and from the PorterSesnon property, which lies south of High-

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> - Vickie Powell-Murray. Friends of Porter-Sesnon

way 1 between New Brighton State Beach and the Seascape area.

Her conditions were called "onerous" by Kelley attorney Dick Allen, who indicated that they could jeopardize the project.

Powell-Murray scoffed at such suggestions

"We do not believe that the conditions imposed by Supervisor Levy will 'kill' the project, as some have suggested," she said. "If the conditions prove too 'onerous' on the developer." said PowellMurray, "we have no doubt Supervisor Levy will negotiate them to let the project go forward. since she is clearly committed to its success."

The Friends of Porter-Sesnon spokeswoman also said that it was "already widely rumored that pressure will be put on Caltrans to permit a direct access to Highway 1 at only minimal cost to the developer."

Vowing to "fight Wingspread to the very end." Powell-Murray said her group was preparing "other political and legal steps" to "reverse" the board's vote on the development.

"We will not give up," she said.

Joining Powell-Murray in excoriating Levy Tuesday was Sierra Club spokesman Hal Levin. Levin, who last week irritated State Assemblyman Sam Farr by bringing up Wingspread build, and demanded that the developer provide during a press conference on a package of coastal protection bills, called Levy a "broker" for "a developer's dream fantasy of a beautiful coastal

community up for grabs."

"She has demonstrated her disregard for the majority of her constituents and other supporters, (and for) neighborhood and environmental protection," said Levin of Levy, whom he accused of willfully ignoring "the facts brought before her in the Wingspread debate."

Levin said Levy had shown herself to be "irrational and unreasonable" on Wingspread, despite

efforts to appear otherwise.

While other supervisors' positions on the development were understandable in view of their past records, he said, Levy's wasn't.

"Everyone knows where (Live Oak Supervisor Dan) Forbus stands on applications for development," said Levin, who said Forbus had a "long and unblemished record of support regardless of the proposal."

Levin said south county. Supervisor E. Wayne Moore Jr. had "made it clear" that as far as he was concerned, Wingspread's potential benefits for his district outweighed the damage it might

cause surrounding neighborhoods.

As for board Chairman Gary Patton and Fifth District Supervisor Joe Cucchiara, who voted against the development. Levin said they had "taken positions consistent with their previously demonstrated commitments to reasonable growth, protection of environmental resources and neighborhoods, and the lawfully and painstakingly adopted General Plan and Local Coastal Program."

Only Levy, said Levin, had "proven irrational and unreasonable in her portrayal of herself as

reasonable and compromising."

Levin said the supervisor's vote on Wingspread could "only be explained as the logical consequence of a predetermined position of support" for the project.

He also accused Levy of entering into a "suspect alliance" with County Administrative Officer George Newell to push for approval of the development.

Levy, who appeared bemused by the twin attacks on her Tuesday, offered no rebuttal to either Levin's or Powell-Murray's statements.