

✓ Farmers Market site remains undecided

By KAREN CLARK

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SANTA CRUZ — Farmers Market devotees may be in a pickle after July 10 unless a newly created task force works fast to find a new home for the popular event.

On Tuesday, City Council members extended the Downtown Association's yearly permit to conduct the market on Lincoln Street through July 10 with the intention of finding a new site by then.

But association directors have made it clear they do not intend to keep the market on Lincoln Street past the mid-July date because of promises to area merchants.

Store owners have complained

6.13.92
that the social problems attributed to transients downtown are heightened on Wednesdays because many of them hang out at the Farmers Market.

Linda Steinau, executive director of the Downtown Association, said she believes directors would relent on their deadline if a new site has been targeted by July 10.

Council members asked for a report at their June 25 meeting about progress on finding a new site. Members were worried about putting the market on hiatus should nothing be ready in time, and intimated that they may keep it at the Lincoln Street parking lots until a new site is found.