

Landmark OK expected

The City Council is expected to give the key go-ahead tonight for the proposed Landmark Industrial Park by approving the final environmental report (EIR) on the project.

If built, Landmark — on 110 acres of a 156-acre area east of the freeway along the planned Errington Road extension — would be the county's largest industrial park.

The Planning Department has recommended approval of the EIR, and the Planning Commission earlier this month gave its stamp of approval on a 5-0 vote.

"This (tonight's action) is not the final approval of the park," City Manager John Radin said this morning. "... The assessment district has to be processed, some rezoning has to be done, and tentative maps have to go through the public-hearing process...the project could be denied at any one of those steps.

"But, this is an important step," he added.

In his report to the council, Planning Commissioner Bud Carney said that the EIR, prepared by Earth Metrics, "provides a thor-

ough evaluation of the potential environmental impacts that could occur as a result of the project, and many...measures are suggested to reduce these impacts to acceptable levels."

According to Earth Metrics, the city and/or developers should be able to:

—Provide housing for those who move into the area seeking jobs in the new park. It has been estimated that as many as 5,000 jobs will be created by the time the park is filled to capacity.

—Preserve or transplant the rare Santa Cruz Tarweed, which grows on the site of the park.

—Take measures to prevent flooding and improve traffic conditions in the area.

"All of the environmental impacts addressed in the EIR have a sufficient degree of analysis to provide decision-makers with information which would enable them to make a decision that would take account of the environmental consequences," Planning Director Carney said in his report to the council.

Tonight's meeting begins at 7:30.