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Soquel Creek Annexation Approved

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It was pretty much an open and shut case this morning as the Local Agency Formation Commission approved annexation of the entire service area of the Soquel Creek County Water District to the district proper.

Everybody wanted it, and it was kind of a fluke the annexation try was shot down the first time, so the approval today sailed through with a minimum of discussion.

Walter Jordan of the Aptos Terrace Improvement Association did ask whether the annexation would be completed in time for the new portion of the district to vote on a proposed \$5-million Soquel Creek bond issue.

Bob Johnson, district manager, replied there should be ample time to complete the annexation before the bond vote.

Commissioner Ralph Sanson wanted to make sure.

"I just hope we don't get in a

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situation where anyone is playing games with this bond election, Bob, because it will queer the whole deal."

It was foot dragging by the water district board that torpedoed the project the first time around last year.

After LAFC had approved the annexation, the district board delayed its own approval until it was too late for the annexed area to vote in then current district elections.

The election vote had been the main concern of the Rio del Ma and Aptos Terrace improvement associations, and when it was no longer possible, they asked the annexation petition be withdrawn.

Since it was Rio that filed the original petition, the whole project went down the tubes.

While mid-county officials may be most interested in voting in water district elections, the average homeowner is probably more concerned about what annexation will do to his water bill: It will be lowered \$1 per month.