

# City OKs razing Elks Building

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SANTA CRUZ — City Council members on Tuesday approved a request to demolish the earthquake-damaged Elks Building on Pacific Avenue.

Demolition is expected to begin early next year. The building shares a wall on the north with the Ferrari Building, and the second floor and roof must be shored before demolition of the Elks Building can begin.

The council's vote included approval of the design for a replacement building, which will match the red brick exterior of the Trust Building at Pacific and Soquel avenues.

The only change ordered by the council was that the new two-story building have one shower, which the city's hopes will encourage employees to bicycle to

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work.

That decision came on the heels of the council requiring the new five-story Cooper House have four showers. Owned by

the Kett family, the Elks and Trust buildings both were badly damaged in the Oct. 17, 1989, Loma Prieta earthquake.

Building manager Ruben Fuentes originally thought the Trust Building also would have to be demolished. But the family decided to spend the \$100,000 more to save it rather than rebuild.

Fuentes said the renovation of the Trust would begin as soon as the Elks Building is demolished.

He said the Elks Building would cost about \$1 million more to remodel than to take it down and put in a new building.

Plans are for a 24,255-square-foot retail/office replacement building.

Councilman Louis Rittenhouse disqualified himself from the 5-0 vote because his family owns property downtown. Councilman John Mahaney was out of town.