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Public hearings scheduled for fought-over general plan

By CAROLYN SWIFT

Live Oak residents, business and property owners will be given a chance on May 26 and June 2 to comment on the Live Oak General Plan draft released this week by the county planning department.

Public hearings are scheduled both days at 7:30 p.m. in the Live Oak School cafeteria, and another hearing with the planning commission will be held at a later date.

As promised, the draft includes reports of the Live Oak General Plan Advisory Committee (LOGPAC), plus three alternate plans prepared by county staff

from a list of ten concepts developed over the past two years. The 167-page report includes a discussion of the general plan process, existing conditions in Live Oak, a historical description, past and current problems, planning elements and numerous tables and maps.

Live Oak is the last general plan area in the county to receive an updated plan. The process began in March, 1975, when the Live Oak Community Action League (LOCAL) formed with a goal of organizing a citizen's committee to work toward a general plan.

LOCAL was successful after former Supervisor Dan Farbus

agreed to provide the citizen's group with assistance from a county planner. Dennis Pisila was assigned to work with the committee, and he was involved with the general plan studies from the time LOGPAC was organized in December, 1975, until he resigned from the staff last month.

Because of a split in LOGPAC that began last June, few who initially served on the committee remained to see the report completed. Much of the final document was written by a small steering committee led by Mrs. Christine Hooper, chairwoman.

Ten concepts used as a basis for the four alternate plans were

the village center concept; continuing policies and land use fill; existing zoning; LOGPAC land use committee plan, Santa Cruz and Capitola general plans; the 1961 county general plan; high density-energy conservation; local food production plan; LOGPAC recommendations; existing public services; and "amenity living," — a concept that suggests using open space as a neighborhood amenity for high density residential areas, including high density development along the Rodeo Gulch riparian corridor.

From the 10 concepts, the four alternative plans were selected

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