

Aptos Design Committee Doesn't Oppose PO Site

The Aptos Village Urban Design Committee has not recommended against a site proposed by the post office for its new Aptos facility, committee members said today.

A headline in Monday's Sentinel incorrectly indicated the committee was against the new site at Trout Gulch Road and Cathedral Drive.

Postmaster John Tarr, a committee member, said the recommendation against the site was brought to the committee by the county planning department.

"It came as an absolute shock, a complete surprise to me," Tarr said.

He said a letter from the planning department to post office officials was circulated at the end of the committee's meeting Thursday. But the committee did not endorse it, Tarr said.

Dwight Sharpe of the committee joined Tarr in predicting that the committee majority will favor the site picked by the post office. Both noted that architect Richard J. Huyck received spontaneous applause from the com-

mittee when he showed them plans for the new office about a month ago.

"The committee's reaction was extremely favorable," said Tarr.

"Everybody liked it," added Sharpe.

The planning department letter recommends that the site for the post office be rezoned from residential to "planned development" classification. Tarr said he believes the post office is exempt from local zoning requirements.

Sue Blair of the planning department said she wrote the letter to the post office as a follow-up to a similar letter from then-Acting Planning Director Henry Baker. He asked postal authorities to file for a rezoning and a planned development permit six months ago, Blair said, but the planning department received no answer.

County counsel has advised that the post office is exempt from zoning requirements, Blair noted. County planners would like them to cooperate, however, to keep the process open to local concerns.

REFERENCE

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