

Santa Cruz Of Tomorrow

Future Annexation Plans For City Get Green Light

By Jack Rannells

The Santa Cruz of Tomorrow annexation subcommittee, literally rarin' to go, last night was given the go-ahead by the general membership to designate specific areas and proposed phasing for future expansion of city boundaries.

However, the group was cautioned to give full consideration to "problems" which might be caused by an active annexation program and to setting up speci-

fic criteria for admission of various contiguous areas.

Gaylord Noblitt, chairman of the annexation group, reported his committee envisions Santa Cruz as three times its present size. However, the committee had been cautioned to stick with general policies rather than drawing specific boundary suggestions.

The committee requested permission of the general body to designate areas, study population, economic characteristics, extent of public services required, and effect on property taxes, fire insurance rates, public utility rates and county finances.

Reports also were submitted by the industrial, commercial, and public and quasi-public facilities sub-committees.

About 60 members of the master planning committee participated in discussion of the preliminary reports, first submitted in the budding program. Discussion procedures were established and committees became aware of the shortcomings of the initial reports.

Major problem seemed to be the generalized nature of the reports and lack of clarity in definition.

Notable exception to this was the partial support of the public and quasi-public committee, concerning public schools.

This report, presented by chairman Dr. John Morris, anticipated an "absolute minimum" requirement by 1970 for at least three new elementary schools and a new, larger high school plant.

Proposals included conversion of the present high school to junior high use, with the Mission Hill facility reverting to kindergarten through sixth grade use.

The commercial committee report, subject of controversy last month when it was published and distributed by the East Santa Cruz Businessmen's association, was rapped for lack of clarity in definitions of "commercial" and "strip zoning."

A proposed pedestrian mall on Pacific avenue was termed "well worth considering." Robert Adams made the request. A minority report was made by member William Hottinger Jr.

The general membership suggested that special emphasis on industrial development be given to the Mission street and west-of-the-city areas. An industrial park was suggested.

The industrial committee, headed by Les Ley had cited four industrial sites, also including River street, Neary's lagoon, and the Stokely-Van Camp plant. Suggested rezoning to make the latter a non-conforming use was questioned.



include, left to right, Robert Warne, Tom Polk Williams, Dr. Chester Johns and Arnold Levine. The proposals submitted yesterday are binding for 30 days.

