

Aptos Village utilities going underground

APTOS — Aptos Village, along Soquel Drive from State Park Drive to Trout Gulch Road, will be the next local area to have utilities placed underground.

Victorian-style light fixtures will be part of the \$1.3-million underground utility project. Power lines, as well as cable television and telephone lines, will be placed underground.

Second District Supervisor Robley Levy said the project will be a "significant boost" to Aptos. "It will improve not only the visual character of the village, but the business climate as well," she said.

Construction, which began Tuesday, is expected to take 1½ years and with a completion date of August, 1987.

Pacific Gas and Electric spokesman Reggie Starrs said businesses will not be disrupted more than a day at a time. He said crews will open trenches and close them in the same day, when possible. Grate covers will be used to allow traffic into parking areas.

The majority of the \$1.3-million cost is being funded by PG&E, which collects money for undergrounding projects through a rate-payers fee. The only portion being paid by the county will be the street lighting.

The Victorian-style light fixtures were based on designs submitted by a citizens group. Levy said the style will reflect the turn-of-the-century architecture and flavor of the village.



Pete Amos/Sentinel

Aptos Supervisor Robley Levy and Tim Cleary, former president of Aptos Chamber of Commerce, survey where the new Victorian-style light fixtures will be placed in Aptos Village.