

# ✓ Scotts Valley looks over Bethany proposal

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SCOTTS VALLEY — Developers hoping to build a 186-unit housing development on the site of Bethany College, which plans to move to the Sacramento area, asked city officials last week what they thought of the proposal.

Without indicating official intent, members of the City Council, Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission gave these suggestions to San Francisco Bay Area developers Barry Swenson and John Nicholson:

- A multi-use, off-road trail should be developed to allow safe access between the development, Vine Hill Elementary School and

Siltanen Park. "Staging areas" for bicyclists could be included.

- The existing day-care center should be included and developers should look into including infant and toddler care there as well.

- The proposed general store could include a coffee shop.

- The gymnasium also should serve as an emergency shelter.

- Bethany Road, which is narrow, should accommodate the increased pedestrian and car traffic.

- An emergency exit should be provided for the clustered housing units.

- The church and gymnasium parking lots could be used by those sharing rides.

- A toddler playground could be

included in the plans.

- Bus service should be made available to the development.

They also indicated they would look at these concerns:

- How much the project would intrude on forested areas.

- The effect of traffic on current residents and on major intersections.

- The project's impact on the city's sewer capacity.

- The feasibility of the site to accommodate a satellite elementary school in conjunction with Vine Hill School.

- The possibility that the driveway alongside the gymnasium may be too narrow for two-way traffic.

Swenson and Nicholson have proposed a variety of housing

types for the 109-acre site, which they have yet to purchase. The purchase, they said, was contingent upon several factors, including the response they received from the city.

If the plans go through, the college will close and move to the Sacramento area in June 1994. The developers have stated they would deed over to the city the existing gymnasium and adjacent park site.