Citizens' group will ask county to consider acquiring Sky Park

The Committee for Santa Cruz Airport will ask county supervisors Tuesday for a study on the possibility of the county acquiring and operating Sky Park Airport.

The supervisors' meeting begins at 9 a.m. in Room 525 of the County Center.

Other agenda items include consideration of the disaster preparedness tabloid the county plans to send to citizens, adoption of the 1983 growth rate for unincorporated areas and adoption of an ordinance listing the required qualifications for the county administrative officer post.

These two ordinances are on the supervisors' consent agenda, along with a report by County Health Officer George Wolfe on the local consequences of a nuclear war. Consent agenda items don't require discussion by the board.

The Committee for Santa Cruz Airport is a group of citizens working to save Sky Park Airport from closure.

The airport, located in the middle of

Scotts Valley, is owned by the city of Santa Cruz. The Santa Cruz City Council decided to close the airport Dec. 31, but this action has been put on hold pending completion of a study to determine if an environmental impact report is needed on the closure.

The citizens' group contends the airport could be a source of revenue for the county and is needed by the county during disasters.

During last January's storm, the committee said in its report to supervisors that the airport was used as a staging point for aircraft analyzing the storm situation and for directing emergency personnel.

Included in the materials is a report by Corroon & Black concerning the liability of the airport owner. The company concludes that any concern over the airport owner's liability in case of an accident is unwarranted.