

Some Musician 'Off Limits' Areas in Mall Group's Recommendation

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Day, in front of the Record Factory, in front of the Acapulco Restaurant and in front of the Delmarette Fountain would be off limits, in addition to the Cooperhouse area, if the City Council accepts the proposal.

Tough ordinances covering drinking and loitering are recommended, with Committee member Hal Morris stressing that the ordinances are not to be repressive.

On another controversial issue, the committee voted not to recommend investigating the feasibility of closing the mall to automobile traffic on Sunday afternoons. Committee member Sam Leask III noted that to do so would interfere with east-west traffic and he said this idea had been explored many times.

However, the committee agreed to recommend that businesses be encouraged to stay open on Sundays.

Much discussion was focused on the gazebo in front of Leask's department store. The hanging baskets are to be removed, the overhead vines and the surrounding vegetation is to be trimmed, lighting is to be reinstalled and the gazebo would be used as an information kiosk or for some other like purpose, under the committee recommendation.

Drinking fountains should be installed at regular intervals along the mall, restrooms should be kept clean, better lighting should be placed on the streets, alleys and parking lots, the committee says.

Especially wanted are the county to tighten its mental health detention system and to reassess the housing of persons with severe problems in the downtown area.

The county should consider distribution of food stamps at a location other than the downtown post office and should investigate a San Diego program that requires able-bodied food stamp recipients to work.

As stated in previous meetings, the committee wants beefed up police patrols from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

bo there. The street musicians could not play within 100 feet of either side of Cooperhouse on the east side of the mall, under the proposal to go to the City Council.

This restriction was requested by Marilyn Frame, Cooperhouse manager, as a matter of equity for the cafe. Cooperhouse itself is regulating its own musicians, cutting down the volume of the music played and making structural changes in the performance area.

In a memo to Shaffer, Frame stated, in part: "For this committee or city government to encourage or tolerate activities in this area which would undoubtedly contribute to sidewalk congestion while, on the other hand, to require Cooperhouse to operate under a permit whose terms anticipate congestion as a problem, is not only illogical but unfair."

Tom Noddy, representing the Street Performers Guild, protested the proposed restrictions on performers throughout the mall and scored the sudden submission of 38 letters from merchants declaring they want none of the performance activities in front of their places.

Noddy pointed out that among the guidelines adopted by the performers for their voluntary regulation program is an agreement for performers to move at the request of business people.

The performers also have agreed not to remain in any one place for longer than an hour, not to substantially inhibit pedestrian traffic at any time and to space themselves so as not to interfere with the performance of others and to avoid creating a sound which may be disturbing.

Areas in front of the St. George Hotel, between Kay's Young Set and Mode O'

Behavioral problems on the Pacific Garden Mall and in the adjacent downtown areas should be eliminated through a comprehensive program that would include ordinances against drinking and loitering to control of street musicians.

Other means of enforcement could be accomplished through overlooking sales of merchandise outdoors in public places, numerous structural changes, and governmental action to find solutions to such problems as drug abuse, illegal camping and food stamp distribution, a citizens committee recommended Wednesday night.

The 40-member Pacific Garden Mall Advisory Committee concluded months of studies to formulate a long list of recommendations and programs for the Santa Cruz City Council to consider.

Indications are that the final committee report containing the recommendations will go to the City Council on March 11. This would make good a pledge by Committee Chairman N. Manfred Shaffer that the committee would get a final report to the council in March.

The committee completed development of its recommendations at a four-hour meeting in the Civic Auditorium that was punctuated by brisk but good-tempered debate over various issues.

On a wall was a map suggesting to committee members that street musicians may have a rugged time finding places to play, even though the committee is recommending a three-month period for use of voluntary regulation of street performers' activities by the performers themselves.

The map indicated there are 38 mall businesses that do not want the musicians or other street performers to make presentations in front of their stores or shops.

The committee voted to set up six areas "off limits" to street performers because of congestion and other problems.

One designated off-limits area is the mall in front of Cooperhouse and beyond, during performance hours by the jazz com-