

# Aptos Chamber Backs 'Loop' Route

The Aptos Chamber of Commerce this morning voted unanimously to endorse an alternative to the Aptos Village Traffic Plan (route) that is different from one recommended by the county Planning Commission.

The chamber's endorsement is identical to an earlier one by the county's transportation staff. It involves a two-way "loop" around the village on Trout Gulch Road from Soquel Drive to Cathedral Drive, on Cathedral from Trout Gulch to Granite Way, and on Granite from Cathedral to Hopkins right-of-way.

Granite Way is proposed to be extended from Cathedral to Hopkins under the alternative. In keeping with the Planning Commission's recommendations, the chamber did ask that \$10,000 be appropriated for a parking district coordination study, and that Aptos Village be placed on its priority list for undergrounding of utility lines.

The issue was brought to the chamber by Bob McKenzie, a member of the chamber and alternate member of the Planning Commission who was on the short end of the commission's recommendation.

That recommendation, which is tentatively scheduled to be heard by the Board of Supervisors on Oct. 21, would create a new street from the Trout Gulch-Cathedral Drive intersec-

tion to Hopkins. The two-way system would run parallel to Granite Way, which would not be extended under the alternative.

CofC support for the its alternative was rekindled by chamber members Lucille Aldrich and Glenn Specht.

McKenzie told chamber members that the commission's recommendation was a "bad plan" since it would require negotiating rights of ways over at least three parcels in the village. He also questioned maintaining the "integrity" of the village core, if the plan is adopted.

A large parcel at Granite and Cathedral would be bisected by the new street. It is owned by Granite Construction Co., with a proposed commercial and residential development on it, and some parties have objected to the plan.

Ron Miller and Sam Wright, who are involved in the development, expressed their dissatisfaction to the chamber. Miller described the commission's alternative as "flying in the face of all the planning that has gone on for years."

That planning, he claimed, calls for both residential and commercial, which is what his proposed development includes.

Specht, who had earlier favored the commission's alternative, explained that her

and Aldrich's concern was not what necessarily was best for the land owners, but for the people traveling through the village.

On a motion by Tim Cleary, however, the chamber opted for the two-way "loop" system to be recommended to supervisors.

Other business included:

**CANDIDATE'S FORUM** — Second (Aptos) District supervisorial candidates Doug James and Robley Levy will meet at a forum at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 20 at the Sesnon House at Cabrillo College. It will be co-sponsored by the chamber and the League of Women Voters.

**INSTALLION DINNER** — The chamber's annual awards and installation dinner will be Oct. 17 at Deer Park Tavern. Cost is \$9.95 for dinner and dancing. It begins at 7 p.m. with no-host cocktails and dinner at 8.

Cabrillo College instructor and Aptos historian Sandy Lydon will speak on the "History of Aptos." Call 688-1467 for tickets.

**CHRISTMAS SHUTTLE BUS** — The chamber is pursuing efforts for a Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District shuttle bus to take shoppers between Deer Park, Rancho Del Mar and Redwood Village shopping centers. Those centers have promised to offset costs by contributing \$1,000.