

✓ Highway 17 access plans 2-5-87 donated by SV developer

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SCOTTS VALLEY — Private developers have come up with plans for new entrances and exits to Highway 17 in the middle of Scotts Valley, and they made a gift of the plans to the city at the council's afternoon session Wednesday.

Dennis McFarlane of IDEVCO, a development and construction company with offices in Scotts Valley, said his company was willing to pay the \$4,000 to \$5,000 for the plans because "it will help everybody and it doesn't hurt our projects."

The plans do not include an overpass and cost estimates are \$410,000 for access on the Westside of the road along El Pueblo Road and

\$750,000 on the east side along Green Hill Road.

McFarlane said the east-side costs are higher because at the access points — about midway along Scotts Valley Drive which connects to El Pueblo Drive — Highway 17 curves and is not aligned with Green Hill Road.

The highway's curve will cost about \$244,000 in retaining walls, he said.

Costs of the project would have to be paid by the town, and it was suggested the council might look to owners of commercial and industrial companies to pay the way.

McFarlane said his company gave the plans to the city because a "private developer can't get anywhere with Caltrans." He told the council

that the plans were drawn to Caltrans' specifications.

Councilman Ray Carl brought the item to the council, saying he had been looking for the past couple of years for a solution to the traffic pile-ups at both ends of town.

He estimated that by bringing some of the traffic in at the middle of Scotts Valley Drive could relieve the congestion at Scotts Valley Drive and Mount Hermon Road intersection by "30 percent."

The council accepted the plans and decided they would bring them back to be talked about in two weeks.

Mayor Phil Liberty thanked the developers for the contribution, "This is one of the splendid things that have occurred in two years."