Office Building Height Curbed By Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors has moved to protect residential neighborhoods from undesirable, adjacent development by amending one county ordinance and extending the life of an interim ordinance.

Approved Wednesday night was an ordinance amendment limiting the height of office buildings in business and professional zones to 24 feet when contiguous to residentially zoned property.

Since the amendment as approved by the county project planning

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Culture, Carriers

Art Groups, Redevelopment Agency Eye S

By CHARLES JOHNSON
Bee Staff Writer

Discussions have begun between Sacramento arts groups and Housing and Redevelopment Agency officials and consultants on a visionary project to turn the southern Pacific depot into a center of culture, commerce and transportation facilities.

The Redevelopment Agency has received a federal grant to conduct a year-long study of how to revitalize the 50-year-old building.

As Ralph Burgard, an expert on the subject who has been hired as a consultant on the project, and chief planner Leo Goto explained, the purpose of the depot's rehabilitation is to encourage more people to use mass transit.

"The problem is how to change a public enunciated by the automobile to change the image of mass transportation," Burgard said.

Hence the need for middle class enticements such as the arts, to help change attitudes.

Burgard told how dancer Boris Goldman helped increase bus ridership in Cincinnati by such innovations as ballet dancers at bus stops, singers on bus tops and string quartets in the back of the bus.

"Not only can the transit terminal become a focus of celebration, but it puts arts back into the marketplace where there are people who do not normally come in contact with the arts."

Volunteers Plan In Neighborhood

Pledging to act as a link between citizens and law enforcement agencies, a volunteer group called Citizens Against Rape Environments (CARE), said it would present the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department next month with a plan to patrol neighborhoods on a 24-hour basis.

At CARE's first meeting this morning, chairman Peter Clark said: "Law enforcement agencies can only do so much. We wish to do something right now. We do not want to wait."

He cited growing concern over the number of sexual attacks. As recently as last week, three rape cases were reported to the Sheriff's Department, two of them in the Park Ave. area.

The group offers the services of volunteers who would move around in groups of two or three. They would be on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Volunteers would use walkie-talkies to communicate with the police, who would answer calls from the volunteers.

"Some people don't feel safe enough to go outside their homes during the night," said Clark. "Others have to leave the homes of their children while they are asleep."

Clark said they had already had offers from many people willing to become volunteers.

"The Sacramento Sheriff's Department praised us for the idea," he said. "We can't do it without their help, and they can't do it without our help.

"We wish to help them out in their efforts to protect the people of this city."

Clark said volunteers would be screened through the Sheriff's Department, and that volunteers would have to provide their own transportation, including a walkie-talkie.

Clark said volunteers would be told to "sit tight" in case of an emergency, and then call the police.

Volunteers would be on call within the city limits, and would not be expected to follow suspects.

Clark said he was seeking this week offers of help from other law enforcement agencies in the county.

He said the volunteers would "not take the place of their services, but would work in cooperation with them.

"We just want to give them a helping hand."

Clark said he hoped to have volunteers ready to work within the next month.

"We hope to get it started as soon as possible," he said.

Clark said he would meet with the Sheriff's Department to talk about how the program would work.

"We just want to help out in any way we can," he said.

Clark said he would accept any offers of help from the public, and that he would be glad to talk to anyone interested in volunteering.

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