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Approved . . .

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refused to answer questions in writing, a process she believes is required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Aspinall disagreed.

Finally, Doms said the 1981 Environmental Impact Report was no longer adequate and that a new EIR should be initiated.

"We have activated our rights under our representative form of government," Doms told the council. "It is now up to you to follow through with your responsibility to assure your constituency that you are looking out for the community as a whole, not just developers."

Aspinall responded that Planning Commission didn't see the need for an additional EIR.

Another objection to the project was the development's proximity to the helicopter landing pad at Palm Drive Hospital.

However, Aspinall quoted Sebastopol City Manager Melvin Davis as once saying, "Every time I hear a helicopter I feel good, because

someone is being helped."

Some residents residing in the vicinity of the project, such as Benny Siano, agreed with Aspinall that helicopter noise did not present a problem. Siano said the project would "largely enhance the Laguna area."

Don Fiori also spoke up in favor of the project.

"Looks like we're back at our own games again, stopping a beautiful project," Fiori said. "The letter from

Roventini said it was over 1,000 feet from the Laguna channel and added that the project included "no net fill" in the three parcels in the floodplain area.

"This project satisfies the most stringent requirement of the Laguna Report," Roventini said, referring to the "no net fill" requirement of the report.

However, Brenda Nichols did not agree. Nichols said the report calls for "no development" of this area.

'It is now up to you to follow through with your responsibility to assure your constituency that you are looking out for the community as a whole, not just developers.'

—Juliana Doms

Sebastopol Tomorrow makes it sound like developers are taking over the city."

Councilmembers largely agreed with those in favor of the project.

"It sound like we're building it in the channel — are we?" Councilman Bill Roventini rhetorically asked.

Roventini added that developer George Young had done everything required of him to make sure the project was acceptable to city standards.

Further, Roventini did not think the project violated any CEQA guidelines.

"If CEQA's out there, they know where we live," Roventini said. "Have them give us a call."

Councilman Howard Reeser said he favored the project because there were no vernal pools or other ecological concerns in that specific part of the Laguna. Reeser added that affordable housing was sorely needed in Sebastopol. "I think it's a viable project," he said.

Councilwoman Gwen Anderson pointed out the differences in those speaking for and against the project during the public hearing.

"The nine people against this don't live in town, except one," Anderson said. "All of those for it live in town."

Anne Magnie was the only dissenting voice on the council. She said it was a worthy project, but agreed with Haigwood that it was in the wrong place.

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