

Ariz. judge sides with course proponents

PHOENIX—A judge has nixed a May election that would have decided the fate of a golf course at the historic Arizona Biltmore.

According to the *Arizona Republic*, Maricopa County Superior Court's presiding Judge Robert Myers ruled the referendum petition that forced the May 19 election for the Adobe Golf course "is legally insufficient."

The election would have cost Phoenix \$696,000.

"It's gratifying to see that justice can be done, because these people clearly misled people to get this on the ballot," Larry Landry, who leads the Biltmore-area homeowners association, told the *Republic*.

Judge Myers ruled that the Committee Against Unconstitutional Taking did not "follow the Constitution and the laws of the state" when it challenged a Phoenix City Council decision to prevent the Adobe from being developed.

It is unclear if the committee

will appeal the judge's opinion.

Kabuto Arizona Properties owns the Adobe and says it has rights to eventually develop the course into 112 homes after the year 2000, when current zoning restrictions expire.

Surrounding residents say the company has no such rights and that past statements promised the land would remain open space.

Oceanside council heartily approves Morro Hills project

OCEANSIDE, Calif. — The City Council has unanimously approved the 600-acre Morro Hills Village and Golf Course, according to the *San Diego Union Tribune*.

Plans call for a golf course, 1,135 homes, park, school and community center. The developer is Nick Arthur.

In 1993, the council also approved a Morro

Hills development plan for 278 fewer homes. Arthur said that plan didn't work out.

The new plan calls for 13 residential villages with lot sizes varying from 4,500 to 10,000 square feet. He priced the total project at \$150 million and said it would be built over the next five to seven years, with the golf course completed in three to four years.

New layout for San Francisco

PLEASANTON, Calif. — The cities of San Francisco and Pleasanton have agreed to develop an 18-hole golf course and as many as 1,900 homes on 510 acres here.

San Francisco has owned the Public Utilities Commission-operated land, located south of Bernal Avenue, since 1930 and has been trying to develop it since 1990.

Pleasanton has strongly resisted the project for years, claiming it was too large. The Pleasanton City Council has agreed the project can go forward by late summer.

In addition to the course and homes, plans include 582,000 square feet of commercial space, elementary school, community center and parks. No developer has been selected.

AGC to upgrade Tilden Park GC

BERKELEY, Calif. — American Golf Corp. plans \$1.6 million in improvements during 1998 to Tilden Park Golf Course, which the management firm has operated for the past 27 years.

Plans include a new practice facility; replacement of the course's irrigation and drainage system; new cart paths; restaurant upgrades; and overall course enhancements and beautification.

AGC has made \$450,000 in capital improvements to the Billy Bell-designed layout over the past two years.

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