

## Santa Cruz Sentinel.com

### Eight residents to move-out of West Cliff Drive condos for weekend

By Alia Wilson

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SANTA CRUZ -- A 50-year-old condominium on West Cliff Drive at Columbia Street was yellow-tagged by the city Wednesday, forcing eight residents to temporarily move out while improvements are made to the sagging roof, according to the homeowners association president.

Owners of the condo complex noticed the roof was sagging on one of the buildings late Tuesday night, causing damage to some decorative bricks, according to Joe Quigg, homeowners association president.

"Shoring on the roof is being done now and we are hoping to allow occupancy again beginning next week," Quigg said. "We were hoping it would happen sooner but the city is closed until Monday."

A contractor was hired to inspect the building to see what might be causing the sagging. Quigg said some of the structural columns of the building may be rusting and will need to be repaired.

Still, the closure alarmed some residents of the

building, which sits in a prime location with ocean views on West Cliff. The building has 18 apartments, some of which are rented and others of which are owned as vacation homes.

"Even if the building is deemed safe, I don't plan on moving back in," renter Ana Kopitov said. "We were told Wednesday that we had until 10 p.m. that night to grab some belongings and leave and that we would find out on Monday whether we could move back in. I haven't heard anything since."

Notices were posted to residents' doors on Wednesday, instructing them to move out for the weekend. Because the building was yellow-tagged, they were allowed to go inside but only for a limited amount of time, Quigg said.

"We're only allowed in from 9-5 and only for 30 minutes at a time," Kopitov said.

Quigg said he hopes residents will be able to move back in as soon as Tuesday, but cannot guarantee how long the inspection will take because of the work that needs to be done to the columns.

Most residents have been able to house with family members or were put up in hotels for the weekend, Quigg said.

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