Council makes plans to raise money for Rosemary Square

By KARI BARLOW

The Chapel Hill Town Council is moving ahead with plans to cooperate with developers of the proposed Rosemary Square complex after informally agreeing this month not to request further changes in the project design.

"We don't have any choice but to move ahead," said Julie Andresen. "We have legal obligations."

The town is planning to sell parking revenue bonds to raise \$3.5 million for the downtown project's construction costs that the council has agreed to provide, said Greg Feller, administrative assistant at the town manager's office.

These bonds will be financed by the people who use the parking will receive 125 of the 516 parking

goals.

garage, Feller said. Town officials have not yet determined how they will sell the bonds, but will reach a decision once conditions are met for closing the deal.

"If closing occurs, right at that time, the bonds would be sold," Feller said.

The closing deadline is scheduled for early March, and construction could begin by early spring if all closing conditions have been met.

The council had agreed two years ago to commit \$3.5 million of town money to construction of the project. Last spring, the council voted by a narrow 5-4 margin to continue to support the development.

The town will own the property that Rosemary Square is built on and

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spaces, according to the agreement with the developers, Fraser-Morrow-Daniels of Research Triangle Park.

Andresen opposes the project, but said she feels that the council's action must reflect the will of the majority. The overall design cannot be much

improved upon, according to Whit Morrow, president of the development firm. When completed, the Rosemary

Square complex will include an

underground parking garage, retail

stores, restaurants and hotel accommodations. The square will be located in the parking lot behind the NCNB building at the intersection of Rosemary and Henderson streets.

The town held a public hearing Oct. I for residents to air their concerns about the project, but voiced opposition was low.

"We feel very good about the public hearing and the support from the majority of the community,"

Morrow said. "There really wasn't the he thinks carbon monoxide in the outery of public opposition."

The council concluded after the hearing that there was no reason to

abandon the project, he said. Despite the council's green light on development, some residents still oppose the project.

John Graham, an opponent of Rosemary Square since its proposal and a plaintiff in the unsuccessful lawsuit filed to stop construction, said

based on responses from 144 deans

underground parking garage will be unhealthy. He is also concerned that increased traffic congestion around the project will create air pollution.

Scott Herman-Giddens, another opponent of the project, agreed that the square will bring a tremendous increase in traffic. But he said the concerned citizens have exhausted their strategies for stalling the project.

"My guess would be that there is nothing I could do," he said.

Magazine ranks nation's top grad schools

From Associated Press reports

According to a U.S. News and World Report survey released Thursday, graduate school deans rank Harvard University first in medicine, tied for first with Yale University in

Massachusetts Institute of Technology topped the list of graduate schools of engineering, according to the survey.

The survey's list of top professional schools:

based on responses from 183 deans surveyed:

1. Harvard

(tie) Yale

3. University of Michigan 4. Columbia

(tie) Stanford

6. University of Chicago

7. University of California, Berkeley 8. University of Virginia

9. New York University 10. University of Pennsylvania

7. Stanford

10. Cornell

5. Yale

1. Harvard

9. Columbia

Francisco

6. Washington University

3. University of Pennsylvania

4. University of California, San

8. Duke

2. Johns Hopkins

8. Cornell

7. Purdue

3. Stanford

4. Berkeley

Champaign

5. California Institute of Technology 6. Michigan

based on responses from 241 deans:

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1. MIT

9. Carnegie-Mellon

10. University of Texas, Austin

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OPPORTUNITIES IN

Walkathon to raise funds for Central American poor

By LEE ANN NECESSARY

About 100 area volunteers will march through Chapel Hill Sunday afternoon during the Committee for Medical Aid to Central America's annual "Health Walk for Central America."

The Carolina Committee on Cen-

tral America, along with the UNC School of Medicine and School of Public Health, helped sponsor the walkathon, intended to raise funds for medical relief to three Central American countries.

Volunteers will begin the 10 kilometer trek at 1 p.m. in front of the Smith Center. The walkers' path winds past the N.C. Memorial Hospital, ending in downtown Chapel Hill at 4 p.m.

Proceeds from the march will go toward training and equipping doctors in Guatemalan rural villages. purchasing supplies for clinics and hospitals in El Salvador and helping Salvadoran refugees return home.

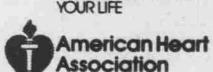
The Triangle-based Committee for Medical Aid to Central America has raised and sent over \$60,000 in aid and equipment in the past six years. Last year's walkathon raised \$8,000 for the group's projects.

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