

Board considers parking ordinance, plans public hearing

By LAURA GRIMMER
Staff Writer

One possible solution to transportation problems in Chapel Hill may be on the way.

The Chapel Hill Planning Board approved a revamped transportation management ordinance after it heard suggestions and questions from the Chapel Hill Town Council. But the planning board decided to wait before making a final referral until after a public hearing on April 18.

"What this ordinance will do is lessen the effects of new developments on existing traffic problems," said Lisa Mundt, Chapel Hill Transportation Planner.

The ordinance would apply only to business complexes that accommodate about 50 employees, which roughly corresponds to a 20,000 square-foot office building. Developers would be forced to get a special use permit from the town before they could build.

The ordinance would only cover commercial developments. Residential developments and University property would not come under the requirements of the plan.

"It's much more difficult to enforce traffic ordinances in residential areas and University jurisdiction," Mundt said. "This is in the interest of improving existing problems."

The planning board is trying to encourage carpools, vanpools and any alternate form of transportation that would help decrease the number of single-occupancy cars on the road, she said.

Once an application for a permit is received, the criteria for review include:

- how much additional traffic will be generated by the building or complex.
- the number of on-site and additional parking spaces gener-

ated or required by the project.

■ the extent to which parking will overflow into nearby neighborhoods.

■ the location of the development relative to major streets, bicycle and pedestrian pathways, public transportation facilities, and commercial shopping and eating establishments.

■ existing traffic problems.

The ordinance also contains a conditional approval limitation that enables the town council to place certain restrictions or requirements on the applicant to ensure local traffic and transportation needs are met.

Margaret Taylor, Alliance of Neighborhoods public information officer, said that although the group has not formally debated the ordinance, she is not opposed to it.

"What the board is trying to do is change people's transportation habits," Taylor said. "But the ordinance will not pertain to the University or residential neighborhoods, so it's really not going to do anything."

The proposal is a spin-off of a much stronger plan that was presented about four years ago with the formation of the Chapel Hill Growth Management Task Force, she said.

"Every year it gets more and more watered down," she said.

Commercial developer Joseph Hakan of Hakan/Corley and Associates of Chapel Hill spoke in opposition to the ordinance at a joint meeting of the planning board and town council last week, but was not available for comment.

The ordinance is based on a similar law enacted in Pleasanton, Calif., in 1984 that has effectively reduced the number of vehicles on the town's most used roads during peak congestion hours.

Clinic offers contraceptive counseling

By SAMANTHA NEWMAN
Staff Writer

The Contraceptive Health Education Clinic (CHEC), operated through the Student Health Service since the 1970s, offers individual and group counseling on contraceptive issues, according to Susan Edelstein, a counselor with the service.

"We try to give out facts, as straightforward and unbiased as possible, so that the individual can make an informed choice about which contraceptive method to use," Edelstein said.

Discussion centers on the effectiveness of various contraceptive devices for disease and pregnancy prevention, she said.

"Before you go on birth control, you need to know your options," Edelstein said. "While the pill is a good protection from pregnancy,

condoms are also effective and, aside from abstinence, they provide the greatest protection from disease."

The free contraceptive counseling is required for every woman using birth control for the first time through SHS.

The biggest challenge for the clinic is making students aware of its services. "Anybody can come by and get information," Edelstein said. "We don't get enough students who just want information. You don't have to be on the pill to come in and talk to us."

The clinic offers two types of counseling, group and individual. Group counseling, sponsored through residence halls and Greek organizations, expands on the topics covered in individual counseling.

"Group counseling is really effective," Edelstein said. "We move past

contraceptive methods and explore sex roles. The response has been very good."

The AIDS scare has increased student anxieties about sexually-transmitted diseases, she said. "Four or five years ago, people weren't as concerned about sexually-transmitted diseases," Edelstein said. "They were there, mostly in the form of chlamydia, genital warts and gonorrhea, but it wasn't the same."

FATE (Fight AIDS Through Education) is a special CHEC group session that addresses fears about the disease. "People are scared about AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome)," Edelstein said. "Even though there have only been two or three cases reported on campus, statistics show that for every case reported, there are 50 people affected with the HIV virus. Although this is

not proportionately significant (to the 22,000 students on campus), it's still a large number."

The greatest sex-related fear for students besides disease is pregnancy. CHEC is not involved with pregnancy counseling. "We're very specialized," Edelstein said. "We counsel on contraceptive methods. Pregnancy counseling is provided by Student Health and Planned Parenthood."

Edelstein said that the program is up-to-date and relevant to today's college student. "A lot has changed with AIDS," she said. "A few years ago, the biggest concern was pregnancy. Now, people realize that it's important to protect yourself from diseases as well. We want to respond to this concern by raising awareness about STDs (sexually-transmitted diseases) and condom use."

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Chancellor

think people who aren't part of the dominant culture are frustrated. . . . It's foolish for a white male to say, 'I understand this feeling.' It's impossible. But it's necessary to say 'I will try to understand, and I will come and listen.'"

All groups, no matter what their beliefs, should be free to speak on campus, Hardin said.

The CIA should also be free to recruit at the University, he said. "I am a civil libertarian," he said. "I believe in a free platform with no prior restraint, and I believe in free access to the University for prospective employers. . . . Once you begin to discriminate, where do you draw the line?"

Asked to comment on weaknesses he saw at the University, Hardin said: "It's a lot more comfortable to talk about obvious strengths than to talk about alleged weaknesses. I'll wait and form my own judgments."

One of his own weaknesses, Hardin said, was his lack of experience working for a large public university. "The very thing that makes some people wonder if I'm sane is what attracts me here," he said. "Something I have not done in a very interesting life, full of experience and full of a lot of happiness and satis-

faction, is to preside over a large public university with all of these political processes and structures. I'd like to give it a try."

Hardin was one of 105 people nominated for the post. Of those, 17 were seriously considered by the search committee. Two of the 17 were

Funding

buildings.

"I hope we can handle things through the appropriate channels and not through backdoor appropriations," he said.

Because Cobb had not seen a copy of the report, he refused to comment on whether the amount of money requested was reasonable.

Sen. Marvin Ward (D-20th), chairman of the senate education appropriations committee, said the legislature could provide \$11 million annually for UNC, but problems would arise if other campuses in the UNC system requested equivalent funds.

Sen. Dan Simpson (R-27th) said such a large request indicated a degree of negligence on the University's part.

"This indicates to me that someone hasn't been keeping up with repairs," he said. "Someone's been derelict in reporting to the General Assembly."

women and none were black, according to The Chapel Hill Newspaper.

Three finalists met with the search committee, members of the Chancellor's Administrative Council and UNC-system President Spangler March 15 to 16. UNC Provost Samuel Williamson was rumored to

be one of those three, but his name was not forwarded to Spangler for final consideration.

In a March 31 letter to Spangler, the other candidate, Jay Oliva, the chancellor of New York University, withdrew his name from consideration.

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Simpson said his decision to support additional funding for the University will depend on demonstrated need.

"If the study is valid, we'll be saving money by keeping the buildings repaired," he said.

Parks Helms, a Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor and former state representative from Charlotte, said it would be "penny-wise and pound-foolish" not to allocate sufficient funds for maintenance.

Helms, who was an undergraduate and a law student at Chapel Hill, said he can see the maintenance problems when he visits the campus.

The request for \$11 million is not

unreasonable if UNC can demonstrate the need, he said.

"\$11 million out of a \$10 billion budget is a relatively small amount," he said. "It's just a question of priorities."

Helms agreed with Ward that other campuses in the UNC system may want more money if UNC's request is met.

"I don't want to have to give each campus the same amount of money," he said. "Allocation should be based on relative need."

Maintenance at UNC and N.C. State University should be a high priority because they are the flagships of the UNC system, Helms said.



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