

a \$30-million bond to help fund energy saving projects for state agencies, in-cluding the University.

After the projects are funded, they will save the state money in lower en-

or written by Copland and members of his staff, budgetary surpluses in the last two years at UNC's Physical Plant have been used to adopt energy-saving measures. The cost-saving projects gave the University an 83-percent return on their investment two years ago and a 40-

percent return last year. Rebecah Moore, student government coordinator for state relations and a coauthor of the memo, said that if the state

toward meeting the EPA's goals. But Moore said the University prob-ably could not meet the Green Lights requirements without help from the state. Without funding from the state it

could take the University up to 60 years to make similar energy-saving measures, she said.

Plexico said that although the bill would cost some money up front, the

for the state to spend on libraries ... rather than on tuition increases."

The energy bill would not only save energy, but it also would save money in the long-run, Plexico said. "It's kind of a win-win situation. We can be good stewards of both (the environment and financial management).'

Legislative committee hung over tuition hike

state will begin to be careful about

By Jennifer Talhelm

Students waiting for N.C. legislators to reveal Goy. Jim Hunt's honeddown 1993-94 operating budget will have to wait at least a few days longer to find out whether their tuition will

increase next year. Members of the General Assembly's Conference Committee did not meet their self-imposed June 15 deadline due to a number of conflicts between committee members over issues such as whether to raise tuition at the 16 UNC-system schools.

"We'll be lucky to have an agree-ment by the end of the week," Sen. Howard Lee, D-Orange, a conference committee member, said Monday night after a committee meeting.

The committee, consisting of 21 representatives and 22 senators, is tied up over many issues, but the question

of whether to raise tuition has caused considerable concern at the Univer-

the money they spend on energy, then they can save \$30 to \$33 million," Plexico said. "(The state) spends about \$111 million on lichting beging and lichting they have

lighting, heating and cooling each year.'

SBP Jim Copland

Committee members must find a compromise between two very differ-ent tuition plans from the House and Senate.

Rebecah Moore, student government coordinator for state relations who has been lobbying both houses against the proposed tuition increase, said she was glad the committee was giving the tuition issue serious consideration

"It's a good thing they're not trying to shove it through on some sort of self-imposed deadline," Moore said. "It's better that they're taking every representative's questions into ac count. "We have no indication what the

outcome will be. Both sides want their

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Town kills meals tax, seeks funds for Streetscape

By Kelly Ryan

The Chapel Hill Town Council unanimously voted Monday night to withdraw a proposed 1-percent meals tax from the General Assembly and pledged to work with the local restaurant and hotel community to raise money for downtown improvements.

who promised during his campaign to make the University more environmen-

tally friendly, supports the bill. "The bill could save money very

quickly and would pay for itself by

saving the University money which

The council's Committee on the Prered Meals and Beverage Tax met last Friday to determine the fate of the tax, which would have been levied on all food and beverages sold for immediate consumption, including most items bought in restaurants.

Town council members Julie Andresen, Joyce Brown, Mark Chilton and Joe Capowski, who make up the committee, decided that it was more important to work toward funding the Streetscape plan than try to push an unpopular tax through the legislature. The multi-million dollar Streetscape

plan would fund extensive downtown improvements, including the construction of more sidewalks, the addition of more lighting and increased police foot

patrols. "We (withdraw the tax) with a certain amount of disappointment, but with a heightened realization of our slight chance to have this legislation passed this year," Andresen said Monday night. "I don't think the committee mem-

bers really were dissuaded that we need a source of revenue to fund downtown improvements," she said. "I don't think the vehicle is going to be the meals tax this year.

Sen. Howard Lee, D-Orange, said he thought it was a good move for the council to withdraw the tax because there was so much local opposition to it. He added that the tax proposal now would just die in the Senate Local Gov-ernment Committee since the council did not want to push it through.

"I did not file a bill with the tax in it because I knew the council needed to review the bill," he said.

Andresen said she was encouraged that the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, restaurateurs and hotel owners were committed to educating the public about Streetscape. Mayor Ken Broun said he thought

the resolution was a good step toward developing community support for Streetscape

I think this is a good step to work with all these people to work for the things we need," Broun said.

Andresen said the meals tax committee would meet again to define the spe-cific direction for the council to take in working with at-large citizens and the business community.

Paul Tripodi, owner of Tripodi's Delicatessen, appeared before the council and proposed seven suggestions for funding Streetscape, including holding a fair, sponsoring an outdoor concert series and placing donation cans in area businesses.

Andresen praised Tripodi for offering his ideas to the council. "I'm appre-ciative of all your good ideas," she told Tripodi. "I think they're ones the coun-cil could take leadership on."

Tripodi said in a telephone interview that when the council had proposed the that when the correctly projected how much revenue the tax would generate. He said the council had projected raising \$500,000 but had used restaurant

revenue figures from Charlotte, which was not representative of restaurant rev enue in Chapel Hill.

"If they're redoing a part of the com-munity, the community should be in-volved," he said. "The restaurants were never against Streetscape. None of the restaurant community knew what was going on until it hit the papers. "We would have liked to be in on the

plan before after-the-fact," he said. "That's why it looked like a battle." Joe Hakan, chairman of the execu-

tive board of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, said the chamber had pledged to cooperate with the town to educate the public about Streetscape

"We feel very happy about this," he said. "It's a way that lets the town work on a problem that the whole town wants complish."

Hakan said that next week, when chamber President Joel Harper returned from a conference, the chamber would begin working with the council to come up with alternate means for funding the

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I don't want to be a millionaire. I just want to live like one. — Joe E. Lewis