

County Approves Solid Waste Agreement

A proposal submitted to the town outlines conditions for the county's takeover of all waste disposal operations.

By JACOB MCCONNICO
City/State & National Editor

The Orange County Board of Commissioners has approved an agreement to take control of waste management for the three municipalities that comprise the county.

The agreement proposal was approved last Wednesday and forwarded to Chapel Hill Mayor Rosemary Waldorf late last week.

Waldorf said she and the town staff

had reviewed the agreement and had forwarded a response to council members for their approval.

"I've read (the agreement) and the staff and I prepared a response," she said. "I think that most of the changes are within the framework of the original agreement we had approved."

The mayor has final approval of the agreement and said she hoped to hear from the council members by noon Friday.

According to the proposal, Orange County would assume solid waste management for the county. This job has been maintained by Chapel Hill.

Orange County Commissioner Margaret Brown said the agreement was fair and she was optimistic that it would be approved.

"From a commissioners stand point if Chapel Hill had presented us with the same agreement I would have approved it," she said. "It's a good proposal."

Under provisions of the agreement waste management employees would be transferred to the county.

In addition, the county would acquire all right, title and interest to all existing waste management systems assets.

The proposal also calls for a provision that would allow county commissioners to create, increase or decrease rates or fees associated with waste disposal as long as one other party approves of the measure.

Waldorf said this provision was not acceptable without some changes.

"We might be able to agree to one party as long as the other party is one of

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MARGARET BROWN
Orange County Commissioner

the largest municipalities," she said.

According to previous reports, the governments of Orange County, Chapel Hill and Carrboro started negotiating county takeover in 1994, but ran into problems when trying to determine the fate of the Greene Tract, a 169-acre piece of land in Chapel Hill that the municipalities had purchased together.

Waldorf said, under the new proposal, the county would take control of 60 acres of the land and the disposition of the other 109 acres would be determined later during a "bargaining period."

Waldorf said the agreement was acceptable to her and if the council concurred with her recommendations the response would be forwarded to the county at the end of this week.

"I think it is going to be an enormous relief and a significant improvement with one municipality running (waste management services)," she said.

"Getting the governance under one group is the best"

The City/State & National Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

Bond Issue Divides House

By SOPHIE MILAM
Staff Writer

State representatives are divided over the need for a \$3 billion university bond proposal that was passed by the senate last week.

The proposal must be approved by the finance committee before it is sent to the House.

Legislative leaders and Gov. Jim Hunt announced plans to issue \$3 billion in state bonds and an additional \$1.9 billion in university bonds to finance the first stage of the plan between now and 2008. Neither of these kinds of bonds are subject to voter approval.

The overall average conditions, or Facilities Condition Index, for all UNC were in the Poor range. Of the 16 campuses in the university system, only two schools were rated "Good" and three were rated "Fair." UNC-CH, NC State University, and nine others were rated "Poor."

Sen. Ellie Kinnaird, D-Orange, recommended that the bonds be passed quickly because the State Office of Construction estimates that delaying a building project by a year raises the cost by five percent.

"The longer we wait, the more ground we lose - and the more expensive these projects will be in the long

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ELLIE KINNAIRD
N.C. State Representative

run," Kinnaird said.

But other legislators voiced concerns about the hasty passage of such a large bond package.

Sen. Ham Horton, R-Forsyth, tried to amend the proposal in the Senate to require a statewide vote, arguing that the sheer immensity of the largest bond package in North Carolina's history called for a vote by the people.

"The people ought to give their consent," Horton told Senate lawmakers. "We ought to trust the people and their wisdom."

Sen. Betsy Cochrane, R-Davie, also made an attempt to amend the package to require a referendum, but Senate Democrats killed both motions.

Senate Republican Leader Patrick Ballantine (R-New Hanover) did succeed in amending the bill to require reports of UNC maintenance needs to insure conditions at the states colleges did not deteriorate in the future.

NC Citizens for a Sound Economy, a non-profit organization advocating free market solutions to public policy problems, advocates voter approval. Brandon Arnold, NC-CSE Grassroots Manager, explained the benefits of a referendum. "If the bonds are allowed to go to a referendum and are passed by constituents, then they will be sold at a lower interest rate than if they were not allowed to go to referendum," Arnold said. "This lower interest rate would save the state \$40 million in repayment of bonds," he said.

A report released by the Pope Center for Higher Education Policy suggested that the Board of Governors could make requisite repairs without spending such an exorbitant amount if they prioritized spending needs. Large expenditures on projects such as faculty salary increases could be abandoned in favor of repair and maintenance work, it stated.

The report also said that steps other than expansion could be taken in order to alleviate the pressure of enrollment increases. Computer studies were cited as being of low cost and not demanding physical campus space. Holding classes at earlier or later hours would also alleviate the need to construct so many new buildings.

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Books Over Franklin Plans August Closing

By JACOB MCCONNICO
City/State & National Editor

Twenty-six steps above the bustle of Franklin Street traffic, the owner of a small bookstore has cut prices in half and is preparing to close his doors for good.

Reuben Moore the owner of Books Over Franklin, 133-1/2 E. Franklin St., said he planned to close the store to walk-in customers at the end of August.

Moore said he made the decision because of the success of his Internet business, which allowed him to sell books at his Web site, www.booksoverfranklin.com. "It's a larger market and also one that you can more easily sell your higher end books," he said.

Moore said it had become increasingly harder for him and his wife to maintain a retail store and an Internet business.

"In my opinion it's nice to be able to do everything if you have the capabilities," he said. "We're closing mostly because we're too small to do both."

Barry Jones, owner of The Avid Reader, said he had been using the Internet for 12 years to supplement his retail business. "In a place even as literary as Chapel Hill our sales have been low," he said. "The Internet has given me a sense that my choices are correct and my pricing is accurate."

Jones said he believed in the power of the Internet and maintained a Web site at www.avidreader.com but questioned the intelligence of closing retail operations. "I think it's foolish to close your doors because that is how you buy

books," he said. "I have some friends who have closed their doors across the country and they are finding that it is hard to replenish their inventory."

Bill Loeser, owner of The Bookshop, at 400 W. Franklin St., said his shop had used the Internet for about three or four years, but had not seen enough growth to be able to close retail operations.

"It hasn't affected us as much as it has other dealers," he said. "We get maybe 20 percent of our sales on the Internet."

Loeser said he did not expect the closing to significantly affect his business, but he said it would provide a small boost.

"I would assume it's going to affect (business) some," he said. "People have to buy books somewhere. Some of them are going to come down here."

Jones said Books Over Franklin had its own clientele and he did not anticipate a large increase in his business.

"(Moore) has developed a niche," Jones said. "Mostly paperbacks I believe. We don't get a lot of student traffic down our way. It's mostly residents and faculty."

Moore said many of his customers had expressed remorse over the loss of his store. "The big sentiment is that people are sad that there is not going to be a bookstore on this end of Franklin Street," he said.

Moore said he would miss having walk-in customers. "It's easy to sell books in Chapel Hill," he said. "We're going to miss that aspect of it."

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South Square Kids Club Summer Activities

Every Wednesday Morning 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Center Court July 7 Thru August 11



Kids Club Members are invited to join us on Wednesday mornings this summer at Center Court to enjoy our fun-filled Summer Activities.

Each week, there will be a new program including visits by The Bouncing Bulldogs Rope Jumping Team, Sparky the Fire Dog, plus clowns, face-painting, storytelling, free gifts, arts & crafts and more!

Each child who participates in any activity receives a surprise gift. Plus, the Coffee Beanery will provide free chocolate milk for kids and free coffee for parents during each activity.

But remember, our Summer Activities are for Kids Club Members only. If you're not a member, stop by the Customer Service Center for an application. Annual membership is free for kids age 12 and under, and provides money-saving discounts and free surprises all year long.

The Coffee Beanery, Ltd.
During each weekly Kids Club program, The Coffee Beanery will offer free coffee for parents, and a free South Square Kids Club cup filled with chocolate milk for each Kids Club Member.

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Receive 10% off all children's books every Wednesday from July 7th through August 11, 1999.

Lynn's Hallmark
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

MUSIC
The ArtsCenter: 330-G East Main Street, Carrboro, 929-2787.
Cat's Cradle: 300 E. Main St., Carrboro, 967-9053.
Go! Rehearsal Room: 4. 414 E. Main St., Carrboro, 969-1400.
Skylight Exchange: 405 1/2 W. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill, 933-5550.

Thursday, July 8
■ Youth Violence Radio Benefit at Cat's Cradle.
■ Correspondence Quartet at Go! Rehearsal Room 4.
■ Don Coscenti at Skylight Exchange.

Friday, July 9
■ Vic Chestnut w/ Danielle Howle at Cat's Cradle.
■ Fura, Milemarker, Soundtrack at Go! Rehearsal Room 4.

Saturday, July 10
■ Los Straightjackets w/ Snatches of Pink & Dexter Romweber at Cat's Cradle.
■ Pipe at Go! Rehearsal Room 4.
■ Chunky Fixta at Skylight Exchange.

Sunday, July 11
■ Spirit Caravan, 60-Watt Shaman at Cat's Cradle.
■ Open Jazz Jam at the ArtsCenter.

Monday, July 12
■ Open Mic Night at Skylight Exchange.

Tuesday, July 13
■ Kula Shaker w/ Splendor at Cat's Cradle.
■ Dr. Oakroot's Tonic at Skylight Exchange.

Wednesday, July 14
■ Open Mic Night at Skylight Exchange.
■ Bob Dylan and Paul Simon at Walnut Creek Amphitheater, 834-4000.

ART
■ "North Carolina Artists Exhibition" 48th NCAE features recent work by N.C. artists. Through Aug. 8, at the N.C. Museum of Art, 2110 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh.
■ "Together Forever: Portrait Pendants from the North Carolina Museum of Art." Through Sept. 26, N.C. Museum of Art, 2110 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh.

PLAN AHEAD
■ Lauryn Hill Fri., August 6, Walnut Creek Amphitheater, Raleigh, 834-4000.
■ Barenaked Ladies Sat., Aug. 7, Walnut Creek Amphitheater, Raleigh, 834-4000.
■ Widespread Panic with the Dirty Dozen Brass Band Sun., July 25, Walnut Creek Amphitheater, Raleigh, 834-4000.
■ Merge Records 10-Year Party July 22-24, Cat's Cradle.
■ R.E.M. August 27, Walnut Creek Amphitheater, Raleigh, 834-4000.
■ The Melvins Tues., Aug. 3, Cat's Cradle.
■ Flaming Lips, Sebadoh, Robyn Hitchcock, Cornelius, IQU Thurs., Aug. 12, Cat's Cradle.

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