

# Chapel Hill Town Council Bans Duplex Construction

By LAURA HINSON  
Staff Writer

OCT. 22 - The Chapel Hill Town Council voted 9-0 late the night of Oct. 21 to temporarily ban the building of duplexes townwide until June 30.

The action essentially buys time for the

council to devise a long-term duplex regulation that would more specifically address problems in the Northside neighborhood, whose residents have been the most ardent supporters of the duplex ban. Town Hall was packed with anxious Chapel Hill residents, 40 of whom signed up to speak in front of the council.

The opinions of the speakers varied widely. Students for the most part disapproved of the ban, saying the ordinance was an attack on the student body.

Student Body President Jen Daum spoke for the student population, asking the council to consider waiting to make a decision while working with the students

to arrive at a joint decision. "The blanket ordinance would do harm for the students," she said. "I would like to offer the student government's support and help in finding a solution to this problem."

Daum argued that the problem is rooted in the Northside community, not the entire Chapel Hill area.

Several community residents spoke at the meeting, strongly supporting the ordinance to ban new duplex development. Northside resident Delores Bailey said the essence of the neighborhood would be challenged if more duplexes were built in the area, thus attracting more students. "Northside residents are working to maintain its character," she said. "Additional

duplexes will not help us do this."

Daniel Orisson, a doctoral student at UNC, placed the blame on the University and said the school should take more responsibility for student housing.

"Northside is being developed at a disregard to its current residents," he said. "I feel that if the University does not take responsibility for student housing, then the town's most vulnerable residents will be affected negatively."

The debate escalated as the night drew on, and opinions from both sides culminated in several loud outbursts and tense statements from several residents.

Ed Caldwell, a longtime Chapel Hill resident, gestured profusely during his

speech, which ran over the allotted three minutes. "I don't mind students, but you have to respect me and people who grew up in Northside," he told the council. "You know what to do: You pass that ban on (duplexes). That's the least you can do."

After nearly 2 1/2 hours of personal pleas, the council passed the ban, emphasizing its temporary nature and assuring students that there will be new housing available when a new development, Chapel Ridge, will open next year. The complex is slated to house nearly 600 people.

"I think to say that this hurts students is not taking that into account," said council member Flicka Bateman.

## PETA Accusation Sparks Investigation of UNC Labs

By JEFF SILVER  
Senior Writer

APRIL 19 - The release of a video by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals showing "inhumane" treatment of rats and mice at labs in UNC's Thurston Bowles Building has led University officials to begin investigating laboratory procedures.

At a press conference April 18, UNC officials defended the policies in place to protect animals used in campus labs.

"We really believe we give great care to our animals," said Tony Waldrop, vice chancellor for research.

Waldrop said he had viewed the PETA tape and said officials will look into the accusations. "There are things we want to investigate," Waldrop said.

The video, shot by PETA undercover investigator Kate Turlington, shows researchers decapitating mice with scissors and footage of Turlington finding live mice feeding on a dead mouse. Turlington also filmed "extremely sick and injured" rodents being neglected, some paralyzed or with broken necks.

Turlington started working at the lab in October and documented the alleged violations for about six months. She never disclosed her ties to the animal rights group and wore a hidden camera under her clothes to record the events.

She said in an April 18 interview that many of the practices shown in the video violate rules prescribed by UNC's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and the National Institutes of Health. The IACUC is a board that oversees and approves all research projects using live vertebrate animals at the University, as required by federal law. The NIH is a federal group that funds scientific research provided that procedures are followed.

Turlington said she hopes the allegations will prove that the federal government should oversee research institutions because they are unable to govern themselves - a charge UNC officials disputed.



DITH FILE PHOTO

Mice kept in research laboratories of the Thurston Bowles Building, part of UNC Hospitals, allegedly have been subject to animal mistreatment.

Jeffrey Houpt, School of Medicine dean, said rules are in place to prevent the actions depicted in the PETA video. But he added, "It's always possible for protocol to be broken." Waldrop noted that all research done at the labs conforms to rules set by the NIH. "We go even beyond what the (NIH) requirements are."

Waldrop noted at the press conference the benefits of using rodents to investigate human ailments, saying the animals are used to research conditions such as epilepsy and alcoholism.

UNC received \$236.8 million from the NIH in 2001, the 12th highest total in the nation. Waldrop said UNC labs are accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care.

Turlington said she was taught procedures she considered humane during her two-day training. But she said she

saw many cases of abuse after starting. "It was very clear the way I was trained wasn't the way things were done," Turlington said.

She said complaints from her and other lab technicians were not taken into consideration by the researchers.

In e-mails copied by Turlington and sent to The Daily Tar Heel, Turlington alerted Steve Pomeroy, UNC's assistant director of laboratory animal medicine, and Rhonda Lewallen of IACUC about the violations she had noticed. She said neither office responded.

Waldrop said that the IACUC had received complaints but that some of the allegations reported April 18 were new. Turlington denied that assertion.

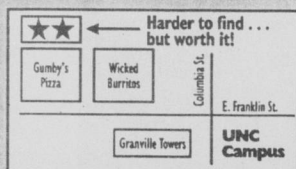
Turlington said April 18's press conference was just a front put on by officials. "They appear concerned. But when it comes down to it, they do nothing."

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