

# Carrboro solicits outside consulting

BY KATHY CHO  
STAFF WRITER

The town of Carrboro will be getting a second opinion on how to beef up downtown commerce.

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen voted unanimously Tuesday to receive proposals from firms interested in helping the town refine its economic development strategy.

"Downtown is a particularly complex issue," Mayor Mike Nelson said after the meeting.

"If you make a mistake in your downtown area, you screw a lot of things up."

The town hopes to double its commercial tax base and lessen the burden on residential property owners, said James Harris, director of community and economic development, in an interview prior to the meeting.

Carrboro's commercial sector accounts for less than 12 percent of the overall tax base, according to the request for proposals submitted to the aldermen by the town staff.

The consultant's role would be to assess existing land use regulations, propose an inclusive process for setting policy goals and help the town devise a specific action plan.

The town will set aside \$50,000 to hire the consultant. Harris said the money will come from the Carrboro Revolving Loan Fund, a financing source for economic development.

Nelson said that hiring outside help will not change the town's vision of the downtown sector.

"We're asking the consultant to help us flesh out that vision, to paint the picture to go inside the frame," he said.

The selected firm will observe the town's sustainability principles, which include protecting the environment and creating jobs that provide livable wages, Harris said.

The last time Carrboro sought a consultant's help for economic development was in 1983, Harris said, describing it as "a very positive experience."

The consultant from 1983, Hammer, Siler, George Associates, had suggested that the town promote its downtown as an entertainment and restaurant district.

That policy was deemed a success in the Downtown Carrboro Market Analysis of 2003, a report produced by UNC's Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise.

Aldermen will proceed to appoint a selection committee to review the submitted responses. The nine-member committee will include aldermen, members of advisory boards and town administrators. At the meeting, Aldermen Alex Zaffron and Jacquelyn Gist expressed interest in serving on the committee.

The deadline for submitting a proposal has yet to be decided, but town staff would like to finish the hiring process by the end of October, Harris said.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

## MENINGITIS

FROM PAGE 3

a good idea for everyone, but particularly for incoming students.

"We just certainly highly recommend that all first-time students to Carolina consider this recommended vaccine," she said.

Shoko Satoh, a freshman history major, said her dad, who is a doctor, warned her that meningitis is prevalent in colleges. However, she said she is not worried about getting the disease and doesn't think many others are either. "That's part of the problem. Kids don't think they can get sick."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

## Meningitis symptoms

Student Health Service held a meningitis vaccine drive Tuesday to raise meningitis awareness and to encourage first year students to get the vaccine.

Common symptoms	High risk factors	Treatments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever</li> <li>• Severe and persistent headache</li> <li>• Stiff and painful neck, especially when trying to touch the chin to the chest</li> <li>• Vomiting</li> <li>• Confusion and decreased level of consciousness</li> <li>• Seizures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crowded living conditions (college dorms)</li> <li>• Not being immunized against the mumps, Haemophilus influenzae, and the pneumococcal vaccine</li> <li>• Travel to areas where meningitis is prevalent</li> <li>• Sharing drinks, cigarettes, food, and other forms of mouth-to-mouth contact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See a doctor</li> <li>• Antibiotics</li> <li>• Take measures to reduce fever, such as Tylenol, fluids, and good room ventilation</li> <li>• Use a cooling pad on your bed</li> <li>• To prevent seizures, keep surroundings quiet and calm</li> <li>• Drink lots of fluids</li> <li>• Get all the necessary immunizations</li> </ul>

SOURCE: [HTTP://WWW.WEBMD.COM](http://www.webmd.com)

DTH/BOBBY SWEATT

## SUDAN

FROM PAGE 3

active members expressed interest in continuing their efforts with SUDAN this year, Rao said. So the sharp increase pleased her.

With the recent repercussions of Hurricane Katrina, group officials said, it is important for students also to stay informed about victims in America.

"We're just saying that what's happening (in Sudan) is important, but that doesn't mean we don't care about what's happening here," said Hudson Vaughan, a member of the SUDAN planning committee.

"We're proponents of both. We're not competing."

SUDAN is not holding any major events this week so students can focus their efforts on aiding those affected by Katrina.

But the critical nature of the situation in Darfur should be underscored, Vaughan said.

"The goal (of SUDAN) is to spread awareness at the school and

in the community," he said. "That's what we're here for — to help support the refugees and try to help stop the genocide that's going on right now."

Since SUDAN's inception, its student leaders have been active planning events on campus.

Last year, members displayed pictures of Sudan genocide victims in Polk Place and encouraged students to call state senators to express their support for the Darfur Accountability Act. Group leaders also held weekly vigils and built mock refugee camps.

The weekly vigils will continue this year on Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Pit, and SUDAN members plan on sponsoring more mock refugee camps.

Ongoing fundraisers — including the sale of bracelets and soon the sale of T-shirts — will continue as well.

For more information about the group's efforts, visit its Web site at [www.unc.edu/sudan](http://www.unc.edu/sudan).

SUDAN leaders said they are eager to get students motivated

this year.

There will be a meeting at 8:30 p.m. today at the bottom of the Student Union to discuss the Darfur Fast, which will take place Oct. 6.

Leaders at N.C. Hillel also are working to raise money and awareness. Dimes for Darfur, a Hillel project, is part of a national initiative that aims to collect 1.5 million dimes — \$150,000 — across 10 college campuses.

The money, which will be donated to help Sudanese children affected by genocide, will be collected in memory of the 1.5 million children who lost their lives in the Holocaust.

Genocide is a global issue that people must face and work to stop, SUDAN leaders said.

"This goes way beyond UNC," said Joanna Zelman, a community liaison for SUDAN. "We're trying to get as many people involved as possible. The more people involved, the better."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

## ARCHITECTURE

FROM PAGE 3

The recently established plans for Carolina North also were constructed with keeping UNC's architectural history intact, as a decision was made not to try to expand on the main campus.

"We can't urbanize our central campus," Kapp says. "We don't want to become N.C. State (University)."

Despite these new developments, it is clear planners are trying to preserve the school's rich history, which can be observed every day in its layout and architecture.

"Walking on this campus is like walking on archaeology," Kapp says.

University Desk Editor Brian Hudson contributed to this article. Contact the Features Editor at [features@unc.edu](mailto:features@unc.edu).

## SYSTEM

FROM PAGE 3

program, or Title IV, established by the Higher Education Act of 1965. These guidelines shape federal Pell Grants and work-study programs.

UNC-system finance officials discussed those guidelines Tuesday to make sure each school was clear about how to implement them, Kanoy said.

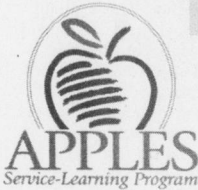
Atkins said the UNC system is working with federal officials to determine how financial aid will be transferred from the students' home schools to system schools.

"They're going to make a decision one semester at a time," Kanoy said of the system officials.

Senior Writer Megan McSwain contributed to this article. Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

### Interested in organizing or participating in service-learning experiences?

#### General Interest Meetings



Thursday, Sept. 8  
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Student Union 2511

Tuesday, Sept. 13  
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Student Union 3503

For more information, visit [www.unc.edu/apples](http://www.unc.edu/apples)

## ROSEMARY

FROM PAGE 3

downtown's west end, which some say are two of the town's untapped resources, could be seeing large benefits from the Village.

"We're looking at development all along Rosemary Street," he said, citing the multimillion-dollar developments slated for parking lots 2 and 5 as examples of the vertical downtown that planners envision.

Nelson said he expects the centrally located development will draw downtown together. "I think it will help bridge the gap between the

west end and the east end."

Build Ex co-owner Chris Ehrenfeld said the project has run smoothly thus far.

"It's coming along quite well," he said. "The exterior will be virtually complete in a few weeks."

San Francisco-based architect Donald MacDonald oversaw the complex's design.

Residences at the complex are between 900 and 1,300 square feet and many feature rooftop terraces — a trait MacDonald used to give units a sense of privacy and boost the three-dimensional quality, Ehrenfeld said.

To meet the town's affordable housing code, about 15 percent of the Village is low-cost housing.

Brisk unit sales — all but nine of the condos have tenants, and the 5,000 feet of retail space is already contracted out — might give a boost to Rosemary Street.

"You're now going to have at least 38 residents, and some of the units may have two or three (occupants)," Ehrenfeld said. "They're obviously going to be frequenting downtown."

But the condos likely will not house students — units sell for between \$300,000 and \$600,000.

Business owners have pointed out that the move to house non-students will benefit Franklin Street stores in the quiet summer months.

Immediate commercial presence at the Village will include a dessert shop and a day spa, and Ehrenfeld added that professional offices or a coffee shop could be possibilities.

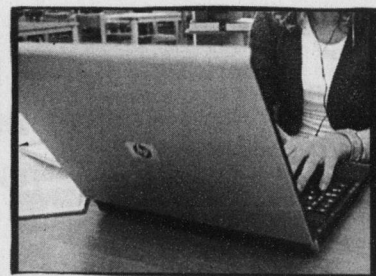
"The success of this project will breed more," Ehrenfeld said. "Not too many years down the road, Rosemary (Street) will be very different than what we're used to."

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

Share your space, but live on your own.



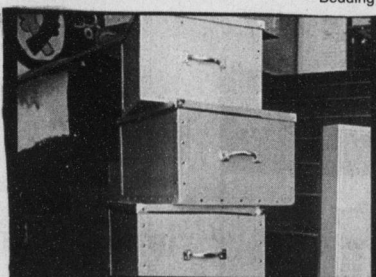
All furnishings pictured are from Wal-Mart.



HP Laptop



Bedding



Storage

Get everything for your dorm room at [Walmart.com](http://Walmart.com) and still afford tuition.

**WAL-MART**  
ALWAYS LOW PRICES.

Always

[Walmart.com](http://Walmart.com)