



Alderman Gerry Cohen, (lower right) says the University should increase its contribution to the bus system, but Vice Chancellor Claiborne Jones, (upper right), says "there's no way." While the town and the university continue negotiations, many are wondering whether bus service will be curtailed even further, or die away completely.

## Town bus service needs funds to maintain

By SARA BULLARD  
News Editor

Unless the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen can come up with "additional funds from some source," Alderman Jonathan Howes said Tuesday, the current level of bus service can not be maintained.

The Aldermen would like to see those funds come from the University, but in negotiations last week, they were told by Vice Chancellor Claiborne Jones there is "no way the University contribution can be increased for next year."

The other alternative for funding of the bus system is revenue sharing, money from the federal government which the town manager has recommended be decreased by about \$12,000 from last year's level.

There is some disagreement among the Aldermen about using revenue sharing for the bus system, a function some say is not compatible with the original intention of revenue sharing.

Alderman Thomas Gardner said Tuesday, "I'm not in favor of putting one penny of revenue sharing funds into the transportation system this year." A "more than reasonable amount" of those funds has

already been used for buses, he said. "At this point we have to give consideration to other needs," such as water and streets, that revenue sharing would be more suited to.

Howes said the town would have to get "at least" the \$174,000 from revenue sharing that the town manager recommends in order to maintain the current level of service. SG Director of Transportation Paul Arne said that even that amount, taking inflation into account, would mean a reduction of bus services. The transportation board has recommended that revenue sharing be increased to \$207,000.

Howes also said the "long-range goal" ought to be the elimination of revenue sharing funds from the bus budget.

Alderman Gerry Cohen said he favors revenue sharing to fund the bus system, but does not want to increase the amount over last year. The needed money, he said, should come from the University instead.

Cohen and Howes agree that the money the University has set aside for a new parking deck could be used for the bus system.

"It's clear," Cohen said, "that it is cheaper to fund the bus system than to build a parking deck."

Howes said, "The University has to decide. Please turn to page 19."

## ... and debate over a water supply lingers on

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so it doesn't need so much additional water?

"I think 80 to 90 per cent of the people in Chapel Hill would like to see it stop growing," Edward Johnson said. "I think that OWASA could provide a means for this by restricting when, where, and how water and sewer lines are placed."

But Paul Morris said Tuesday that the OWASA does not have the power to limit growth that municipalities do in the way of zoning and planning.

OWASA recently won a court battle against CCA ruling that the authority could survey the Cane Creek. However, a 30 day stay was granted for CCA to appeal the case to the State Court of Appeals. So the debate continues.

Expanding the supply of water from University Lake is another much discussed alternative. CCA believes this is the best proposal because it could be done by enlarging the present dam or building another one close to it. But work could not be done to expand the present dam because it

would degrade the water used for the town, according to Billingsley.

CCA says that the land around University Lake would be cheapest to buy as much of the property is owned by UNC and very little land in terms of acreage, about 100-200 acres, would be flooded. However, Billingsley says that 28 houses, a research center, two heavily traveled roads, and a cemetery would be flooded if another dam was built there.

A larger collection place for water may not necessarily equal more water, according to

OWASA. "The critical factor in building a dam is having a large enough watershed to feed the reservoir," Billingsley said.

Receiving water from the B. Everett Jordan Dam is another alternative for Chapel Hill. But there is no water in the completed dam. A decision is expected soon from Federal District Judge Eugene Gordon as to whether the reservoir, located 25 miles south of Chapel Hill, can be filled.

CCA believe that the Jordan alternative would be the cheapest

water source as no dam must be built. However, a growth of trees would have to be cleared from the reservoir's basin even if Gordon rules the floodgates can be closed.

There are two alternatives dealing with neighboring Durham and its water system. One is doing what a dry Chapel Hill did last year and buy water sent through the two pipelines now joining the towns. "But buying water from Durham will be more expensive than it was last year because their water rates for all their customers are going up in July," Billingsley said.

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