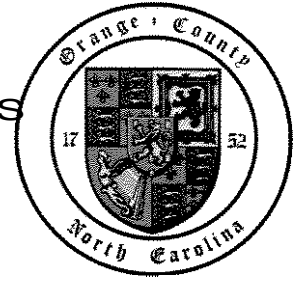


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ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
POST OFFICE BOX 8181
200 SOUTH CAMERON STREET
HILLSBOROUGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27278



July 6, 2006

The Honorable Kevin Foy, Mayor
Town of Chapel Hill
405 Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Dear Kevin:

Orange County is working in expedited fashion to replace its animal shelter, currently located on Carolina North property leased to the Town. We believe your willingness to assist those efforts may be key to our success.

As you and I previously discussed, the County plans to relocate the shelter operation to property we purchased adjacent to the closed landfill on Eubanks Road. Based on conversations between County and Town staff prior to the land purchase, it is our understanding that the site will need to be rezoned from its current R-1 status.

The attached optimal development timeline for the project reflects a twelve-month approval by the Town of Chapel Hill in preparation for a late-2009 completion of the facility. This timeframe was developed after we received assurance from Chancellor Moeser in a January 27, 2004 letter that the University was willing to extend a lease to the County for at least five years after the December 31, 2006 expiration of the lease with the Town.

However, this month we received preliminary indications that the remediation efforts at the hazardous waste site at Carolina North may require the shelter be relocated as early as the fall of 2007. The key appears to be whether the shelter falls within a yet-to-be-determined safe zone for remediation. The County Manager is working with University administrators to define with greater specificity the safe zone as well as the timeline for vacating the site.

The possibility we will have to act more quickly than anticipated to replace a facility that is integral to the health and safety of the County presents numerous challenges. Since the specialized nature of an animal shelter does not readily present opportunities for re-locating to a temporary facility, it would appear our best option is to expedite the construction project to the extent practicable.

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The Board of Commissioners on June 27 authorized selection of an architect while we break for the summer, and assigned two commissioners to participate. We further directed our staff to expedite development of the project in any manner possible.

In that vein, we ask that the Town provide assistance to identify and advance opportunities within your purview that might move this important public project forward in a timely manner.

Thank you for your consideration. We very much value the collaborative spirit that enables the Town and County to work so well together to serve the public interest.

Best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barry Jacobs", written over a horizontal line.

Barry Jacobs, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

	By 9/30/2006	By 12/31/2006	By 3/31/2007	By 6/30/2007	By 9/30/2008	By 12/31/2008	By 3/31/2009	By 6/30/2009	By 9/30/2009
Animal Shelter									
architect selected									
programming complete									
regulatory process complete***									
bids solicited/awarded									
construction commenced									
construction completed (12 mos)									
***stated timeline is 12-18 months; this assumes 15 month approval									