

Town of Chapel Hill

September 29, 2005

Dean Marvin Malecha, FAIA College of Design North Carolina State University Campus Box 7701 Raleigh, N.C. 27695

Dear Dean Malecha:

Thank you for your willingness to assist the Town of Chapel Hill in serving as a peer reviewer for its Downtown Economic Development Initiative. As you know, the Town Council is negotiating with private developer, Ram Development Company, to build mixed-use projects (retail, housing, and parking) on Town-owned property.

The Council's Negotiating Team seeks a design advisor to give constructive critique and feedback on preliminary architectural designs, and to provide design advice and criticism on the design of public space.

Under separate cover last week, we sent information for your review, including excerpts from the Town's Comprehensive Plan, the Town's Design Guidelines, the Downtown Small Area Plan, a 2002 report on design workshops, Council principles and priorities for the project, and a copy of the Request for Qualifications and the Request for Proposals. You will see that the process the Council has followed has been deliberate and inclusive.

In our discussion last week, you agreed to consider serving as a peer reviewer for this project in a manner similar to the work you have done for the City of Raleigh. Chapel Hill architect Georgia Bizios from the College of Design may assist. The process would be conducted with the participation of Council members, Town staff, and the Ram Development Company. You would review the Town's existing design guidelines and conduct review sessions at critical points of the project design process. Work would be done on a *pro bono* basis.

The Town would reimburse you for your travel and related expenses, and would be prepared to consider a contribution to the College of Design's scholarship fund, as you deem appropriate.

Your outreach to communities such as ours exemplifies NC State University's tradition of being responsive to the people of North Carolina. Applying your knowledge in responsive ways has assisted project teams for the Raleigh Convention Center, the Catholic Diocese in Raleigh and the Contemporary Art Museum in Raleigh, among others. We are honored that you are willing to assist the Town of Chapel Hill.

Sincerely,

W. Calvin Horton Town Manager