



TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL
OFFICE OF THE TOWN ATTORNEY

Telephone: (919) 968-2746
Facsimile (919) 969-2063

February 28, 2003

Mr. Geoffrey E. Gledhill
Attorney for Orange County
Post Office Drawer 1529
Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278

Dear Geoff:

On February 24, the Chapel Hill Town Council received a petition asking the Town to adopt a program to provide Town funding to candidates for Town elective municipal office. The program, entitled "Voter Owned Elections," is described in the enclosed materials which were presented to the Council at its February 24 meeting.

The petition was referred to my office to prepare a response, which is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the Town Council on March 24, 2003. As you will see from the enclosed materials, the proposal calls on the Orange County Board of Elections to provide some administration of the voter owned election program. I am for that reason writing to seek any comment the County would wish to make on the program and, in particular, its willingness to assume the role described for it in the enclosed petition.

Our agenda preparation and distribution schedule necessitates that I receive any response that you may wish to make by March 18, in order to afford me sufficient time to prepare the report for timely distribution to the Council on Wednesday evening, March 19, 2003.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Ralph D. Karpinos
Town Attorney

RDK/tcp/Enclosure