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To: "barney" <ebarney@mindspring.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 14, 2003 8:54 AM
Subject: In July of 2001 the Council approved the rezoning of UNC

Statement of Joyce Brown for Chapel Hill Town Council meeting on June 16, 2003

When the Council approved the new OI-4 Zoning District and subsequently the Development Plan for UNC's Main Campus, a significant argument justifying approval was that important benefits had been gained. One of the most touted benefits was that new development would rely much less on use of personal vehicles and much more on mass transit and a pedestrian and bike friendly campus. One way of achieving this mutually agreed on goal was to place the new parking deck on the perimeter of the campus and not significantly increase parking.

Now in less than two years, UNC has undermined one of the main reasons for approval by asking for modifications that would put new parking decks internal to the campus. With these two new decks, as well as the probable building of the already approved perimeter parking deck, this would mean significant increases in auto trips coming into Chapel Hill and the campus, exacerbating our transportation related problems, including worsening our already seriously compromised air quality.

It is clear that Council approval of the proposed parking deck modification would significantly negate Council actions in 2001. It would make that whole negotiated process hollow. It would also bring into question any future negotiations with UNC.

If the Council approves the proposed parking deck modifications citizens working on Town Goals for Carolina North could wonder why bother to put time, energy and thinking into something which could be modified away in the future? Other future negotiations could be met with the same skepticism.

Chapel Hill has nothing to gain by approving these modifications and an enormous amount to lose. There have been no significant changes since 2001, only the need to make sure that our transportation needs are met as originally articulated and put into the Zoning and then the Development Plan. Please vote against the proposed change for the parking decks.