

Univ. of Calif. - History 2/21/63

City Asking University To Pay \$92,000 Share

By Wally Trabing

The city has formally asked the University of California at Santa Cruz to pay \$92,000 for direct water service to the new location of the campus center.

This and other proposals involving water and fire protection were forwarded to University officials this week following a recent decision of the university to move the campus center from the lower elevation of about 400 feet to about 800 feet.

According to City Manager David Koester, the decision "changed considerably the nature and cost of the required water service facilities."

Total cost involved in installing a water program for the higher campus is about \$358,00, which includes the \$92,000 from the university.

Weston Webber, city water director, said this would be an integrated system which takes into consideration future private development to the west of the campus.

An alternate proposal was included in the letter from City Manager Dave Koester.

"If the University desires to install its own campus water distribution system and fire storage, the city will furnish water at a service connection in the lower campus area at an elevation of about 400 feet, as assumed during the initial city-University negotiations. Facilities necessary to furnish service at this elevation would be provided at no cost to the university. The city cost involved here is about \$220,000.

The city agreed in January of 1962 to provide fire protection to the portion of the campus lying

within the incorporated limits of the city.

However, the new campus center is not within the present city limits. A section of the Koester letter asks "adequate assurance that the campus area to receive water service will be annexed to the city at its request."

Koester also asked the university provide, at no cost to the city, a mutually acceptable site of a half-acre.

University officials could not be reached to comment on the proposals, submitted at their request.

Webber said the water program for the university is not considered a major item in the \$1.3 million city water bond issue coming before the voters April 9.

City hopes of sharing cost of water service to the university with residential development in the Cowell estate area were destroyed when Cowell foundation trustees indicated a lack of interest in selling the land for such development.

However, a later study by consulting engineers Brown and Caldwell indicated an estimated difference of only some \$11,000 between service to the campus with surrounding residential development and service to the school without residential development.