

# Coalition seeks to put UCSC land-use issue on November ballot

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SANTA CRUZ — Citing "tremendous negative public sentiment" about UCSC's proposed research and manufacturing center, a coalition of local groups is seeking a city ballot measure they hope would force the university to comply with local land-use laws.

Keith Rolle of Santa Cruz Action Network today carried a proposed in-

itiative to the city council, asking the council to put it on the November city ballot.

The initiative asks the council to "express concern" about the center, and to ask the UC Regents and state legislators to deny approval and funding to any project which violates local land use and planning ordinances.

"We feel the university is clearly moving ahead with this proposal," Rolle said

at a press conference this morning, "and we feel the community has a right to be involved in it. We're going to have to live with it."

UCSC Chancellor Robert Sinshemer has proposed a research and manufacturing center which would use what he calls UCSC's main resource, land, to bring in much-needed funds.

As it is now being discussed, the 50-acre site would be developed and built by the

university, and leased to high-tech research and manufacturing firms.

It would employ approximately 1,200, university planners say, and 60 percent of the space would be used for manufacturing. Planners say it would bring in between \$800,000 and \$1.2 million a year for UCSC.

In a letter to the city council delivered today, Rolle and representatives of the Sierra Club, the Environmental Council

and a group called Community for University and Industrial Accountability say the center will be a "gross violation of the city's general plan. The university is zoned for educational, not industrial, use."

(Associate Planner Tim Reynolds, however, says there is no such zoning as "educational.")

It goes on to say the proposed center will "make a mockery of our growth

management system by greatly increasing demand for growth," the need for and cost of housing, and will bring further traffic congestion, and and an unacceptable demand on city services.

The university is exempted from local laws and ordinances. The groups' letter states UCSC "appears very willing to disregard the wishes of the local community." Sinshemer has said the university will make an effort to comply with local laws.