



40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of
UNIVERSITY CITY HIGH SCHOOL
1971-72 + 2011-12

3 Rights Groups Back Citizens' Struggle to Retain Housing Site

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Three civil rights organizations on Saturday promised full support of a citizen's struggle to retain 7.6 acres of land for housing renewal in the heart of the University City redevelopment program.

Representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Congress of Racial Equality, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee said they would take the case into the courts and into the streets with demonstrations before conceding to "pressures."

The disputed 7.6 acres is bordered by 36th and 37th sts. and Filbert st. and Lancaster ave.

The University City Citizens Council for Area 3 has been seeking to retain this area for the placement of some 270 families who would have to leave their present homes in an area between 34th to 40th sts. and Chestnut st. to Lancaster ave.

John Clay, attorney for the citizens group, said a total of 987 families would be affected by redevelopment fo the area for the proposed Science Center. Of these families, he said, 500 are Negro.

The latest protest came at a meeting of the citizens group and civil rights leaders in the offices of CORE at 36th and Market sts.

Clay told the gathering that a statement issued last Monday from the Redevelopment authority stating that the citizens had reached a compromise at a meeting on Sunday was not true.

He pointed out that the "compromise" called for 2.2 acres of land, which would be allowed for the placement of only 26 families.

The civil rights leaders at the meeting were Lenerte Roberts, NAACP; William Mathis, CORE; and Barry Dawson, SNCC.

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