



40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of
UNIVERSITY CITY HIGH SCHOOL
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Board Agrees to Reduce the Size of West Phila. Science School Site

Author: Richard H. De Lone

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The school board yesterday agreed to a compromise plan, worked out by the Redevelopment Authority, to reduce the size of its site for a proposed University City Science high school by 2.2 acres.

The plan is an effort to accommodate residents of the 7.6 acres surrounded by 36th, 37th, and Filbert sts. and Lancaster av., who have protested condemnation of their land for the school.

HUD Approval Expected

The compromise clears the way for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to approve renewal plans for all University City Renewal Area 3, including a proposed 26-acre, \$100 million University City Science Center.

There are strong indications that HUD feels the plan meets the residents' needs and will approve it, although Warren Phelan, HUD regional director, said he could make no comment at this time.

His boss is Robert C. Weaver, HUD secretary, who has had plans for the area on his desk for three months following threats that riots would occur if the plans were approved as they then stood.

There is no indication, however, that the local Congress of Racial Equality, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) are in a mood for compromise.

Hold to 1963 Agreement

They have backed residents who want to stand by a 1963 city agreement giving them power to renew the 7.6 acres themselves.

Red tape and squabbles over this land have delayed all projects in the renewal area for over three years—including the science center.

Under the compromise, the board would give up the 2.2 acres bounded by Warren, 36th and 37th sts. and Lancaster av. for housing designed to hold 38 of the 51 families owning homes in the 7.6 acres.

The remaining 5.4 acres would be added to a nine-acre site immediately to the west for a science high school.

Dilworth Accepts Plan

The plan was presented to Richardson Dilworth, school board president, in a meeting at his law office by Gustave G. Amsterdam, chairman of the Redevelopment Authority; R. Stewart Rauch, of the Greater Philadelphia Movement, and William Wilcox, GPM executive director.

Dilworth, who just returned from a month in Europe, approved it.

He got verbal assurances from all members of the nine-man school board that they too would go along with the plan.

HUD officials have suggested to some concerned parties that a rare “approval with an exception” might be given to approve all projects except the school if the compromise plan does not work out.

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By RICHARD H. DE LONE
Of The Bulletin Staff

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"I would be pre-guessing my boss to make a judgment on it," Phelan said.

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