

From The Insider, September 7, 2006

---

## YOU DON'T SAY

"That's a good question."

Rep. Joe Hackney, D-Orange, when asked about what it would take to get a piece of legislation that stalled during the short session through the General Assembly next year.

THE HERALD-SUN, 9/06/06

---

## NEWS SUMMARY

...

**LAND FOR TOMORROW:** Rep. Joe Hackney says there's still hope that the state will invest hundreds of millions of dollars to preserve open space and other land, but he's not sure what it'll take to make it happen. Earlier this year, the bid to get a \$1 billion bond referendum -- called "Land for Tomorrow" -- on ballots statewide stalled in the General Assembly. Hackney, D-Orange and the House majority leader, said the measure was slowed by concerns from Gov. Mike Easley and others about the prospect of taking on a significant amount of new debt through such a bond package. Hackney commented on the measure after being asked about it at a breakfast hosted by the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce. Hackney said he was uncertain on what it would take to get the measure through next year, but it was "still very much on the table." Hackney noted that the idea had built up a lot of support among legislators and a study commission is supposed to report its recommendations to the General Assembly in February. Proponents of the bond say it will help protect North Carolina's open spaces, guarding places ranging from parks and forests to working farms and historic locations. "It just wasn't going to fly this time," Hackney said. (Rob Shapard, THE HERALD-SUN 9/06/06)