

Regents may put off store talks

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Prompted by public outcry and faculty concerns, a committee of the University of Alaska Board of Regents recommended that land-lease negotiations with Carrs and Wal-Mart be postponed pending more research and public hearings.

The move came in committee meetings Thursday, days after citizens and faculty learned the UAF administration had entered discussions with the retail firms to build a shopping center on experimental farm land near Geist Road and the Parks Highway.

Construction would destroy agricultural experiments, divert bird migration, violate a federal land-grant law, deflect agriculture grant monies and be unsightly, critics said.

UAF administrators said the project would bring \$200,000—\$300,000 per year to the university, provide business internships for students and give the community a new shopping mall.

The regents will officially vote to-

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