

# Why some small firms do

## Medical company says nuclear initiative would put it out of business

By Andrew Smith  
Staff writer

OAKLAND — For the life of him, Jim Clouser can't see the connection between nuclear war and sterilizing medical instruments.

But Clouser, chief executive officer of Radiation Sterilizers Inc. of Fremont, said Thursday that the nuclear free zone initiative on the June 5 ballot will shut him down as surely as it tries to shut

down Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Clouser's is one of many small businesses that have problems with Measure A, the nuclear free zone initiative, because it could cost them business.

"The overall initiative, to me, smacks of ignorance," he said.

RSI sterilizes medical instruments by passing them through large doses of radiation. His company uses more than 200 times the radiation that would be allowed by the initiative.

The initiative seeks to convert Lawrence Livermore and Sandia national labs to non-nuclear weapons work, to prevent the county from buying prod-

ucts from companies involved in weapons work, to regulate transportation of radioactive material through the county and to set up an elected commission to enforce the ordinance.

The initiative is "bureaucratic and punitive," said Carl Smith, spokesman for No on Measure A.

And it may be unenforceable next week a federal court ruled. Oakland's nearly identical nuclear free zone was unconstitutional in most of it out. The city is considering whether to appeal the decision.

"These nuclear free zones have ways of stopping businesses that I've seen in a long time," s

## Six car dealers sign pact for big auto mall

Rex L. Bowman  
Staff writer

FREMONT — Six auto dealers have signed an agreement with Santa Fe Pacific Realty to buy 52 acres of land on Durham Road for \$15.8 million in order to build an auto mall on the site, according to city officials and the attorney for the auto dealers.

"This is the key action that tells us there's going to be an auto mall," Assistant City Manager Roger Anderman said.

Three other auto dealers — Jim Moran and Lou DiGiulio of Fremont and Tony Batarse of Hayward — backed out of the deal, but Santa Fe is holding an additional 36 acres next to the auto mall site for any auto dealers who want to join later, Anderman said.

The auto dealers also signed a tri-party agreement with Santa Fe and the city that starts the paperwork on a complicated financing scheme for the auto mall. The City Council and Santa Fe must now ap-

prove that agreement, which would let the city zone the mall as a local improvement district.

That money will go to reimburse Santa Fe for street improvements in the area west of Interstate 880.

The six auto dealers who hope to move to move their 22 franchises to the auto mall are currently located in the Centerville area, which is the subject of a major redevelopment project already underway.

Those dealers are: Mark Hamilton, who owns a Lincoln Mercury and Jeep Eagle dealership; Dan Signer, who sells Buicks, Saabs and Subarus; Frank Meads, owner of a Mazda dealership; Hank Pierroti, who sells Nissans, Volvos, Hyundais and Suzukis; Hank Torian, who sells Toyotas, Hondas, BMWs, Acuras, Chrysler-Plymouths, Daihatsus and Lexus autos; and Tom Claridge, who sells Rolls Royces, Mercedes and Porsches.

## Panel says cit

By Rex Bowman  
Staff writer

FREMONT — Plenty of minorities are applying for work with the city of Fremont, but the Human Relations Commission says not enough are being hired.

It wants the city manager to come up with a plan to correct the problem.

The commission also wants city department heads and City Manager Kent McClain to be held more accountable for "nonaffirmative action hiring."

Those recommendations — and a few others — are the result of a 10-month review by the commission of an affirmative action report released by the city in July. The recommendations will be passed along to the City Council on Tuesday.

"It's real important that this item be given a good deal of attention and the city of Fremont demonstrate its commitment to equal opportunity employment," said Patsy Phillips, chairwoman

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The report says the city is getting more work and eligible minorities are not getting enough money to meet goals laid down in affirmative action. The city, with 900 people, has more than 100 fewer black and white people than it calls for.

Phillips says why minorities despite the report are not concern

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