

Wolff: San Jose No Longer an Option for A's

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Lew Wolff notified baseball boosters in San Jose yesterday that the A's are no longer considering San Jose as a relocation option. The announcement is the first time that a definitive statement on relocation to San Jose has been made by Wolff.

As reported by Barry Witt of the San Jose Mercury News ([Owner Gives Up on Moving A's to San Jose](#)):

"It is not an option," Wolff declared of the prospects of moving the A's to San Jose, using his most blunt public language to date in a city that has pursued Major League Baseball for more than two decades. He is exploring a home for the team in Fremont.

Speaking to a morning gathering of about 180 San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce members, Wolff ended speculation that he harbored hopes of altering baseball's territorial rules, which give the San Francisco Giants control of Santa Clara County. Wolff said he's tried to address the territorial rights issue for three years, both before and after he took control of the A's in 2005. But now he has given up.

"I can't tilt at this windmill anymore," he said, intimating that he had offered to buy out the Giants' interests but was rejected.

"It's not a matter of money with the Giants. I think it should be, but it isn't," he said.

The announcement of San Jose no longer being an option sets Fremont as the focus of any relocation within the region. Wolff has been in discussions with Cisco Systems to acquire property from them that would be suitable for a ballpark location.