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The position of McKownville residents is as follows.

For more than fifty years, the University "ring road" has served as a boundary line to separate the University from McKownville residential parcels. Breaching of that boundary line spells great anxiety for McKownville residents.

I. Environmental and Nuisance Concerns

McKownville has enormous storm water problems. These 9 acres of heavily wooded land act as a natural sponge, which prevents even greater problems. Paving of the 9-acre parcel—which has standing water in one smaller section—will make storm water problems in McKownville worse. (The problem is acute—the Town recently commissioned Delaware Engineering to draft a remediation plan for McKownville—eventual cost is estimated at \$6 million.)

The 9-acre parcel has served to protect McKownville residents from the noise and confusion occurring on the campus, in particular stemming from the main entrance to the campus and from the basketball arena and the site of the current football stadium, as well as the proposed new football stadium. The parcel has hills on two of its sides. Leveling of the hills and removal of the trees would reduce the residential peace of the neighborhood. These barriers have become especially important over the past decade, as the University has moved its athletic programs up from NCAA Division III to Division I. The basketball arena hosts concerts and events year-round, including a number of professional team-tennis matches during the summer and high school sports events throughout the year. The residents need the 9-acre barrier.

II. The End of a Neighborhood?

While residents of McKownville benefit from the University, the University benefits from McKownville. Many Universities spend significant sums to protect the campus from the neighborhood surrounding the University. The University at Albany has been given a fine neighborhood for its neighbor. Our neighborhood, moreover, provides a safe place for middle-class families to raise children, who play freely in our streets, despite being bordered by a major roadway in Western Avenue. Many university professors and staff

have also decided to raise their own families here, which pays a fine compliment to the quality of life that has been enjoyed by our neighborhood.

The 9-acre parcel might well be developed and include 8 or so fine homes. McKownville residents would accept such. They are also looking for a buyer that might want a “country home in the city” where the land and homes are occupied with the wood lot left largely undeveloped. That has been the use of the parcel and, of course, some would like that to continue.

Fifteen homes abut the 9-acre parcel. The impact of the noise, lights and storm water runoff from University development would be horrible. There is no other way to say it—horrible.

All of us hope to reduce fear and uncertainty for our neighbors and ourselves. Breaking the “ring road” line will add to the fear and anxiety of McKownville residents who have already been made more frightened of the future by NanoTech’s rapid development near McKownville. University development of the 9-acre parcel would compound the fears created by the development of NanoTech.

A 9-acre parcel for the University is inconsequential in comparison to its present size or its needs for space for expansion. McKownville 1,000 homes, ringed by the Thruway, the Northway, the University and the City, places great value on having neighbors who live across the street or down the street, not on crossing a University parking lot or some other University use to visit a friend. University development isolates neighbors—just as if a highway separates neighbors.

There are more than of our 3,000 residents lived here before the University was built and well remember the promise that the University made in 1963 that it would not need to buy anymore residential property in McKownville. I hope that that promise meant something then and means something now.