

Town of Guilderland

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KENNETH D. RUNION
SUPERVISOR

August 10, 2011

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capital Building
Albany, NY 122024

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I am writing this letter in response to recent newspaper articles announcing a listing for sale of the real estate commonly referred to as the "Holt-Harris property", the apparent interest of the University of Albany in acquiring the parcel and the potential impact of such a sale on the McKownville neighborhood and the Town of Guilderland.

The McKownville area has experienced a tremendous amount of growth over the last decade from the University at Albany, the nano-tech campus, and other commercial development. This growth has seriously impacted the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhood. Over the last decade, vacant land has been developed by the University at Albany and other commercial developers with buildings and parking lots. As a result, McKownville has suffered from serious drainage issues, traffic problems, and increased crime.

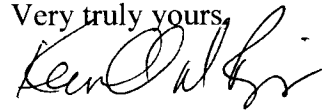
While the Town lacks any legal authority over a private real estate transaction, it is clear that extensive development of the Holt-Harris property by the University at Albany would severely impact the quality of life of the residents in McKownville. Since the University at Albany is not subject to the restrictions of Guilderland's Zoning Code, and conducts its own review pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, a sale of the property to the University could result in extensive development of the site. This would exacerbate issues of traffic and drainage for the town.

In the interest of preserving the overall quality of life in the town, the Town of Guilderland supports low impact residential use of this property. If the University has projects planned that involve high-intensity land use, the Town of Guilderland would

take the position that other locations should be chosen for such activity. One potential alternative area for University development would be the Railroad Avenue corridor.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken D. Runion", written in a cursive style.

Kenneth D. Runion
Town Supervisor