

Update on the former Holt-Harris properties

1 message

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To: Donald Reeb <donreeb@gmail.com>

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Don,

I hope all is well. I'm writing to update you on the status of the former Holt-Harris properties on Waverly Place and Nicholas Lane. As you know, the University at Albany Foundation purchased the properties late last year with the intent of donating them to the University.

The Foundation has now begun that process. The primary reasons for the transfer are to increase security and provide for better maintenance of the area. The University has police officers and maintenance staff on campus 24/7 and is better equipped to respond if necessary.

Until recently, the University was under the impression that this transfer would need to be approved by the SUNY Board of Trustees. In the course of researching that process, the University was made aware that SUNY policy had changed and that such transfers are now administratively approved by the SUNY comptroller's office.

This change in process in no way affects the University's intentions for the property, which remain to hold it for the long term with no immediate development plans. Once completed, however, the transfer will enable the University Police Department to monitor the property, which is not currently the case.

As you're aware, the Foundation has done a great deal of work to clean up and secure the property. Rick McGinn at UAF has worked very hard to respond to issues and keep neighbors informed about activity on the land. As the transfer process proceeds, I will be taking over for Rick as the primary contact regarding the property. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions.

I will be in touch again soon once the actual transfer paperwork has been completed. But I wanted to make you aware of the procedural change in advance of next week's SUNY Board of Trustees meeting to ensure you had the most current information to share with neighbors.

As always, I'm happy to discuss this further if you have any questions, and I look forward to seeing you at the Oct. 20 McKownville Improvement Association meeting.

Best,