

McKownville Improvement Association
Founded 1924

To: Professor Alan E. Kaloyeros
Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer
College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering
University at Albany, State University of New York
From: McKownville Improvement Association
Don Reeb, President
Subject: Parking Structure
Date: May 8, 2007

When the College of Nanoscale Science and Technology asked the McKownville Improvement Association if it would endorse the construction of its parking garage, “yes” was the quick and unequivocal answer.

The reasons are straight forward. The acreage owned by the State University at Albany, though not part of the PineBush Commission area, is part of the historic PineBush. It adjoins McKownville and is used by our residents for recreational walking and hiking. Loss of this natural area has caused many negative comments by residents and it would be irresponsible if the Association did not cooperate with efforts to limit further development.

However, the College has expanded. Another building has been approved and is being built. More parking area for the College will be necessary and a parking garage is one way to both expand the available parking and limit the PineBush area taken.

With that said it is important to the Association that the parking garage not unduly impacts the nearby households on Laughlin Street, Fuller Road, and Warren Street. Hopefully we can look to our residents and the planning literature to guide us as choices are made about the parking garage design, location and so forth. And it is also terribly

important to the Association that much effort be directed at finding sites on the Harriman campus or elsewhere for yet more College buildings if and when they are planned...

The Association welcomes the opportunity provided by the College to join in the discussion about their plans for expanding College parking facilities. Our meetings with the College over the past year to discuss their other expansion plans have been very productive.

The Association has long been an advocate of shared planning. More Capital District organizations should emulate the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering as it has reached out to its neighbors for guidance concerning the development of its expansion plans.