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Hi Joe:

I spoke with Mike O'Brien this afternoon at some length and will be glad to become a member of the consortium.

I have suggested to Mike and others that one idea that need be discussed is "private dormitories"--they are popular around the nation at many colleges (if you goggle "private dormitories" you will get lots of information)and there may be one near the Albany Medical Center as well, as Mike pointed out.

If they were built on the Harriman Campus along Washington Avenue, across from the Patroon Creek office buildings, they would be away from residences, generate property tax revenue and sales tax revenue and mortgage tax revenue etc. for the city and the county and the state. They would be somewhat like the motels that are already along Washington Avenue. They could accommodate students from St. Rose and Albany State and other colleges and be far better policed/controlled than are the college owned dormitories.

This idea was put forth again at the recent University at Albany meeting but the rumor is that the city of Albany and the state are opposed to any use of the Harriman campus by the University--but of course these would be private buildings on non-university land. I always suspected that the opposition to University use of the Harriman campus was entirely because of the desire for tax revenue from the Harriman campus.

Anyway, as I told Mike, my wife and I are traveling to Toronto on Friday for a wedding of a friend of the family and scheduled to return on Tuesday or Wednesday. There is a McKownville Improvement Association neighborhood meeting I chair on Thursday of next week (October 22) at the Holiday Inn Express (1455 Western) from 7pm to 9pm and undoubtedly the proposed university dorm will be part of the public discussion. You and others are of course welcome.

Thanks.

Don Reeb

>

> A consortium of sorts has been forming over the past couple of weeks over
> here in Albany. We are very concerned with the environmental impacts of
> SUNY's expansion plans, particularly the 500+ bed dorm, especially since
> it is cloaked in a Generic DEIS with projects with or without funding,
> with or without specifics, etc. We want to see the DEIS a formal process,
> and make sure community involvement is well considered when formulating
> their FEIS.

>
 > Would you please consider this an invitation to join us in our discussions
 > and strategic planning to address plans that are not good plans?
 >
 > Mike O'Brien intended to include you in his original email but lost your
 > email address.

>
 > Regards,
 >
 > Joe Cunniff

>
 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Michael O'Brien
 > To: danherrinq47@hotmail.com ; jcunniff@nycap.rr.com ; sdagost102@aol.com
 > ; ache5@verizon.net ; jfstellato@hotmail.com
 > Cc: camissofrank@gmail.com
 > Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2009 3:00 PM
 > Subject: Fw: SUNY Projects

>
 >
 > This plan states that the scoping started last year (probably only with
 > the bare bones basic required notice to the public). It seems much to
 > vague to meet any reasonable requirements for notice. There are three
 > different possible sites identified for the 500 room student dorm. SUNY
 > has scheduled a public meeting for October 29, 2009 regarding the dorm
 > project. See attached. We should meet soon (this weekend) to plan a
 > strategy.
 > (See attached file: SUNY Dorm Hearing 10-29-09.pdf)

>
 > ----- Forwarded by Michael O'Brien/BAH/DLA/DOH on 10/13/2009 02:38 PM
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>
 > Michael O'Brien/BAH/DLA/DOH
 > 10/13/2009 02:44 PM

>
 > To
 > danherrinq47@hotmail.com, jcunniff@nycap.rr.com,
 > sdagost102@aol.com, ache5@verizon.net, jfstellato@hotmail.com

>
 > cc

>
 > Subject
 > SUNY Projects

>
 > SUNY has put everything into one vast (20 projects) generic SEQRA
 >
 > <http://www.albany.edu/facilities/dgeis/documents/CapitalProjectsSchedule8-13-09.pdf>
 >
 > http://www.albany.edu/facilities/dgeis/documents/ProjSchedule_8-10-09.pdf
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 > http://www.albany.edu/facilities/dgeis/documents/letter_of_interest.pdf
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 > <http://www.albany.edu/facilities/dgeis/documents/DraftScopingDocument.pdf>
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