

The McKownville Improvement Association

MCKOWNVILLE
ALBANY NEW YORK

March 8, 1984

President Vincent O'Leary
State University of New York at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222

Dear President O'Leary,

On behalf of the McKownville Improvement Association, I want to thank you for the opportunity of speaking with Vice President Lewis Welch and Plant Director Dennis Stevens.

As we discussed with Mr. Welch and Mr. Stephens, our primary concern is with the building of a civic center in the area bounded by Fuller Road, Washington Avenue Extension, and the Northway. We are concerned with both traffic and parking generated by such a large facility close to a very nice residential area. Let us assure you that we are not concerned about the building of a field house on University property. It is the field house and civic center combined that we believe would unfavorably impact on the McKownville neighborhood.

We fear that such a facility in our area would attract more commercial development. We feel that the more popular events will cause parking to spill over onto the neighborhood streets. We feel that the intersections surrounding the proposed site are not adequate to accommodate the increased traffic during civic center events, which will lead to periods of massive traffic tie-ups.

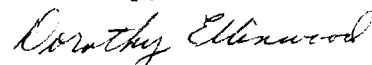
It should be pointed out that with the Crossgates Shopping Mall now a reality, the traffic flow on nearby arterials has shown a marked increase already over the traffic flow of a few months ago. This new development was observed first hand on March 4, the day Crossgates opened.

We are aware that you have expressed interest in the concerns of the University's neighbors and we appreciate this interest. Although we don't pretend to speak for all the people of McKownville, you may be assured that many of us are fearful of the impact on our neighborhood if such a large complex is built nearby.

If it appears that the civic center will be built on this site, we will appreciate meeting with you or people you designate to discuss again the handling of anticipated traffic and parking. As close neighbors of the University we always feel the impact of SUNYA developments and will want the opportunity to present our ideas of how best to meet the changing circumstances.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Dorothy Ellinwood, Secretary

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Albany NY 12203