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UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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April 5, 2006

Tom Saunders
Community Development Director
P.O. Box 490
Station 11
Gainesville, FL 32602-0490

Dear Mr. Saunders,

The University of Florida appreciates the opportunity to continue to work with the city to address concerns about student residents in single family neighborhoods. After attending the joint meeting between the Public Safety and Community Development Committees, the University of Florida would suggest the city take the following actions:

- ❖ Extend landlord permitting to two years.
- ❖ Require landlords to keep permits updated with names and contact information for all tenants.
- ❖ Implement higher monetary penalties for code violations.
- ❖ Notify landlord of first and all subsequent violations of city codes.
- ❖ Increase the 90 day period for a warning to become a second violation and fine.
- ❖ Extend yard parking codes to communities outside the university context area.
- ❖ Add city codes about couches or house furniture not being permitted in yards, on porches, or roofs.
- ❖ Coordinate a community delegation to attend the Best Practices in Building University Relations conference in June 2006 in Fort Collins, Colorado.
- ❖ Provide UF Off-Campus Life with the names of landlords that have had tenant grievances filed against them.
- ❖ Provide UF Off-Campus Life with the names of landlords that have points on their license.


With the implementation of these items by the City of Gainesville, the University of Florida will be better able to assist the City in educating students and addressing concerns within single family neighborhoods. If these suggestions are implemented, the University of Florida would propose a pilot program to include the following initiatives.

- ❖ UF Off-Campus Life will expand the Community Advocates program and specifically target neighborhoods in the University Context Area for student participants.

- ❖ The University of Florida will fund the Director of Off-Campus Life to attend the Best Practices in Building University Relations Conference in June 2006 in Fort Collins, Colorado as part of the community delegation.
- ❖ Off-Campus Life will continue to follow up with students when community and city offices express concerns that warrant an educational discussion.
- ❖ Off-Campus Life will Track Party Patrol reports and will follow up with letters to students who are repeat offenders.
- ❖ Off-Campus Life will send educational letters to students who receive two city code violation warnings and subsequently a citation in a 24 hour period.

The University of Florida has taken the first step towards assisting the city by provided funding for a graduate student to work in the office of Off-Campus Life. We look forward to discussing these suggestions and initiatives as we continue to work together to address concerns regarding neighborhood issues within our community. We do plan to share these suggestions with our students and seek their input prior to any implementation.

Sincerely,



Patricia Telles-Irvin
Vice President for Student Affairs



Ed Poppell
Vice President for Finance and Administration