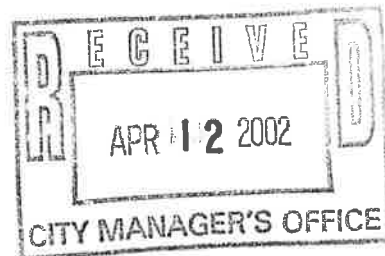


Ms. Wendy K. Birket
University of Florida
Dept. of Urban & Regional Planning
P.O. Box 115706
Gainesville, Florida 32611-5706

April 12, 2002



Ms. Jenny Higgenbotham
Gainesville City Hall
P.O. Box 490, Station 6
Gainesville, Florida 32602

Subject: April 22 City Commission Meeting

Dear Jenny:

This letter is to request 10 to 15 minutes on the agenda for the April 22nd City Commission meeting to present the findings of the University of Florida's Duval Housing Studio. This graduate-level project has conducted a detailed study of the Duval neighborhood.

At the City Commission meeting, we would like to use photo boards and maps to briefly summarize current neighborhood conditions, prioritize intervention strategies and present a long-term conceptual plan for the Duval neighborhood.

We have presented our project to representatives of the Front Porch Governor's Revitalization Council, the East Gainesville Development Corp., Jennings Development Group, and the Neighborhood Housing Development Corporation. We will present our project to the Plan East Gainesville consultants on April 19th. Finally, on April 25th we will present our final recommendations to the Duval residents at a community meeting hosted by Front Porch Florida.

We have received strong support from both development professionals and residents. We have been told that we provide an essential neighborhood-level element to the planning efforts currently taking place in the East Gainesville area. We have been impressed by the level of interest and awareness shown by the Duval residents in an effort to include their neighborhood as a rich and viable part of Gainesville.

Thank you for passing this letter on to the appropriate parties. For further information, please call me on my cell phone at (407) 716-4061. Also, you may contact Dr. Kristin Larsen at (352) 392-0997, x.433. Hopefully, we will be able to present this valuable work to the city commissioners.

Sincerely,

Wendy K. Birket, student
Master of Arts in Real Estate
Master of Arts in Urban & Regional Planning