

Campus: Group searches for solution to Villard 'eyesore'

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for-sale list were all part of University Housing's inventory.

The group agreed that the management responsibilities for the approximately 20 properties would be transferred to another area of the University by June 30.

The group also discussed, during the May meeting, the possibility of the University moving a house this summer; a move that would be done to fill a vacancy in what is known in the east campus development plan as the "low-density residential" area.

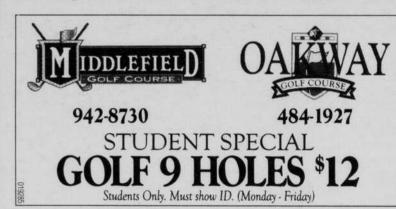
The plan, agreed upon in 2003 by University officials and neighborhood representatives, calls for an area of residential housing to be maintained between the campus and the neighborhood directly to the east. A house along Villard Street has been empty for an extensive amount of time and task group members said they were concerned it was becoming an eyesore for neighborhood residents.

Vice President for Student Affairs and task group member Anne Leavitt told the Emerald that the decision regarding the Villard street house is to "either find the funds to bring the house up to standards or to possibly substitute another house of the same maybe vintage, but in better condition, onto that acreage so that the residential neighborhood would be maintained."

Both Leavitt and University Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies Rich Linton, who chairs the task group, said the group's work is nearing completion.

"Really we're just trying to be good stewards of the neighborhood and put some basic polices in place to maintain that, stabilize it and keep mindful of the long-range plans of the institution as it has needs to expand and do that as positively as we can and with as little impact on the institution, the community and the neighborhood," Linton said.

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