

August 30, 2009

## A MESSAGE TO ROWAN BLVD. RESIDENTS

Welcome to your new home on Rowan Blvd. We can only imagine your excitement as the first occupants of this lovely, brand new residential complex, with many convenient amenities. For those of you with cars, we suspect that one anticipated amenity is convenient parking in close proximity to your apartment. That indeed was our plan as well.

To our dismay and for reasons beyond our control, the intended proximate parking is not available at this time. Very shortly before move-in we learned that our plans to provide parking on the large space directly across from the apartments would not be possible. We were informed that additional environmental studies are needed to ensure the least impact on the nearby stream bed. This obviously was a most unwelcome and unexpected development. Unfortunately, we did not have enough time to conduct those studies prior to your arrival, so we are looking at a variety of short-term and long-term parking-related solutions.

It is important to note that we anticipate that there are sufficient parking spaces on campus for all vehicular needs. Our Parking Service unit is working to accommodate all students who register for a parking decal by coordinating the closest parking as the requests come in. There are several lots near Rowan Blvd. that will be filled on a first come basis. In addition, we have reconfigured the Carpenter Street Lot B parking lot to increase the number of resident student spaces by 228, and Mansion Park is not fully occupied this semester, providing additional parking availability.

Please be assured that your safety is always of paramount concern to Rowan. As returning students, you know that over the years we have implemented many new initiatives in Public Safety. One new initiative this year is the establishment of a Public Safety substation at Rowan Blvd. with 5 new security officers dedicated to Rowan Blvd. Another initiative (co-sponsored with SGA) is the addition of van service to our Safe Walk & Ride program. In the past we used sedans and station wagons. The vans will allow for increased capacity and thus faster response time. In addition to our regular Safe Walk & Ride call-in service beginning nightly at 7 p.m., we are piloting a dedicated route service with regular pick up locations around campus. (Information about the route stops will be available next week.) Furthermore, we continue to provide Student Patrols for any student wishing a foot escort across campus from 7:00 pm to 3:00 am. To obtain an escort, please call Safe Walk & Ride at (856) 256-7233.

We also are looking at two long-term solutions. One would be for us to secure spaces in a planned parking garage, very close to the apartment complex, that Sora Enterprises expects to build. This might be available as early as next fall. A second alternative would be for us to arrange with Hertz, Zipcar, or some similar service to have cars on campus for temporary rental, as is now being done at a number of universities. This would reduce both the number of cars on campus and the costs to students of maintaining a car on campus.

We always are open to good ideas for improving parking and safety at Rowan. You may email your ideas to Reed Layton, Senior Director of Public Safety at [laytonr@rowan.edu](mailto:laytonr@rowan.edu) or call (856) 256-4922. Thank you, and have a safe and productive academic year.