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2009 City of Akron NEWS Releases
 from the desk of Mark Williamson

City Honored with University Park Alliance Award

The award honors individuals and organizations that, through promotion or advocacy, are advancing the grand vision of University Park as a neighborhood of enduring vibrancy, sustainability and value.

(05/19/09) - The City of Akron has been a consistent champion of the University Park neighborhood for many years, and in 2008 it continued to tell the story of University Park as a growing premier urban neighborhood. In addition to building three new community learning centers, new housing, new bike paths, new roadways, demolishing dilapidated properties and providing land for development, the City has helped position University Park as a neighborhood with a rich past and an exciting future.

Frequently highlighted in the city's publications are the University Park neighborhood and its growing number of events and attractions. The City has been the lead advocate for the Biomedical Corridor initiative, much of which lies in University Park, and has actively promoted the neighborhood through strong support to the University Park Art Fair, the Metro Living Tour, and the biking initiative in University Park. It has also promoted University Park through mayoral press conferences celebrating Select Specialty Hospital, Mason Community Learning Center, Spicer Village, and STEM Middle School. University Park was featured in a national presentation for the All American City Award, and Mayor Plusquellic delivered the keynote address to a sell-out crowd at UPA's 2008 annual awards luncheon.

Thanks to the City, the University Park neighborhood is also highlighted on annual bus tours for Leadership Akron and Neighborhood Leadership Institute classes. The City has been a great and giving partner of University Park Alliance, and its promotion of the neighborhood's distinctive advantages has immeasurably increased the viability and vitality of University Park.



Mayor Don Plusquellic receives University Park Alliance Award. Dr. Luis Proenza (L), president of University of Akron, Mayor Plusquellic and (R) Bruce Klink, president of Dominion East Ohio Gas Company. The Dominion Foundation sponsored the UPA Awards Luncheon.