GSS FALL ‘19: HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT
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I. Housing

Early in the Fall 2019 semester there were indications that the 66 Main Street development, which would include housing reserved for graduate students, was moving ahead as planned. There was talk of scheduling the dynamiting of bedrock to make room for new below-ground parking. However, by the time of the October 24-25 USNH Board of Trustees meeting, there was less certainty around blasting dates, and lingering questions over the fate of family housing units in the planned development. The issue did not come up in any public sessions of the January 16-17 USNH BOT meeting.

At the start of the Spring 2020 semester in late January, the fate of 66 Main remains unclear. A team including UNH President Dean had plans at the start of the semester to travel to Maryland where the developer is based, in order to iron out wrinkles in the plan and move ahead one way or another. We hope to have more to report in the coming weeks.

II. Transportation

Following closures and reductions in service for Wildcat Transit, along the Newmarket line for example, we have sought engagement with AVP Business Affairs David May and other Transportation staff on how closure and reduction decisions are made. We are particularly interested in devising a method to survey graduate students more regularly on their transportation needs, since closed lines offer no “ridership” data on which to act.

Meetings on this topic are in the works, and we hope to come to some agreement about how to ensure our campus transit system is not leaving anyone stranded.