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850-room student residence gets nod

BY PAUL FORSYTH STAFF

A \$25-million, 850-room student residence planned for Thorold next to the St. Catharines border could help to alleviate the chronic problems associated with Brock University students living in neighbourhoods in those two cities, say regional politicians.

On Tuesday, the Region's public works committee overwhelmingly rejected a call from regional staff to appeal the City of Thorold's approval for the project to the Ontario Municipal Board, the province's land use referee.

The committee decision, expected to be ratified by the full regional council next Thursday, came as those behind the planned two-tower project warned the problems associated with students will only get worse in the years to come.

Jason Bottoni, project manager with Metrus Development Inc. — on whose property next to the Four Points by Sheraton hotel the project is to be built on — said Brock has 14,000 full-time students but only

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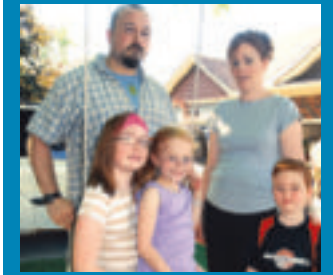


POOL BUILD STARTS

Kiwanis Club of St. Catharines president Peter Brown, Mayor Brian McMullan, MPP Jim Bradley and St. Catharines Public Library board president Les McDonald turn the sod on the new pool-library project in Pearson Park Tuesday afternoon. Actual construction is slated to begin within two weeks. See story on Page 2.

MIKE ZETTEL/STAFF PHOTO

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