Timeline for City of Akron–University of Akron Relations
1967–2015
Kevin Kern and Vic Fleischer

1967—The University of Akron becomes state-supported, ending five decades of municipal tax support.
1973—E.J. Thomas Hall opens. The venue brings generations of Akron residents to campus for theatrical, musical, and civic programming.
1975—The University participates in Akron’s Sesquicentennial Celebration.
1980—New Center Street Bridge (now University Avenue) opens, reconnecting campus with downtown. Buckingham Center for Continuing Education opens in the renovated old Akron Union Depot.
1987—Buchtel Avenue is closed to vehicular traffic; The University of Akron acquires Polsky building.
1990—University Park Neighborhood Association is formed.
1991—College of Business Administration Building is dedicated, “jumping the tracks.” (The Polsky building was acquired earlier, but it was not opened for classes until 1993.)
1999—Last Acme-Zip game.
2001—University Park Alliance is founded; portions of Carroll and Brown/Union streets closed as part of “New Landscape for Learning” campaign.
2004—Ground broken on Exchange Street Residence Halls.
2007—University purchases iconic Quaker Square complex.
2014—The University is part of failing County of Summit levy for communication needs and a downtown basketball arena.
2015—Community resists rebranding of the University as Ohio Polytechnic.