

THE WOODMERE CLUB UPDATE • March 19, 2019

As required by law, the developer has taken the initial first step of filing a preliminary major subdivision for the Woodmere Club property. The proposed name is Willow View Estates. We refer to it as “The Sixth Town”. The developer has proposed to subdivide the land into 285 single family lots based on current zoning in place in each of the municipalities. (Town of Hempstead 248, Lawrence 10, Woodsburgh 17 units entirely within the ten units that straddle both villages). The preliminary subdivision also depicts new roadways that would provide access to the subdivision from Broadway, Meadow Drive/Ivy Hill Road, Keen Lane/Railroad Avenue, Rutherford Lane, and Tulip Street.

Last week, the NCPC (Nassau County Planning Commission) officially declared itself lead agency for the required environmental review under the NYS Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The NCPC then declared the proposal Type 1 (likely to have very significant environmental impacts) and issued a “positive declaration” requiring preparation of a full environmental impact statement. This is the most rigorous environmental review standard under SEQRA. The next step in the SEQRA process will be a public “scoping session” to determine the subject matters and parameters of the environmental review. The date for the scoping session has not yet been determined. Our attorney (Howard Avrutine) will be following up on that. It was also announced that this project now has its own website <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/4717/Willow-View-Estates-Subdivision-SEQR> with the proposed subdivision map (last page) as well as all documents in connection with the application.

This is just a preliminary application. It is by no means the final subdivision plan. No decisions have been made and no decisions can be made until full and comprehensive impact studies are completed by the developer. We understand that there are many rumors floating around out there, but the facts can be found on this website. Obviously, this proposed scenario illustrates that developer is planning to build a “Sixth Town” to the maximum allowed by current law. Note that there is nothing in this plan that would benefit the greater Five Towns community. There is no dedicated public space or park planned. The addition of a “Sixth Town” with an influx of hundreds of homes would devastate our already densely populated neighborhood and congested roadways that feel more and more like a city than the suburbs we want for ourselves and our families. This will negatively affect traffic, parking, property values, taxes, the environment, flooding, utilities, emergency services, sanitation, and overall quality of life. Even if you don’t live anywhere near the golf course, this will negatively impact your quality of life. We plan to fight this as vigorously as possible. At the same time, we are awaiting a report from Councilman Bruce Blakeman and Councilman Anthony D’Esposito on the potential to create a district park rather than

allowing the land to be developed. We have not received an update from them on this option since it was mentioned by them in May 2018. We must continue to pressure all our elected officials to advocate on our behalf and do everything in their power to stop this nightmare from becoming a reality.

Please visit our website www.5TCA.org for important links to sign petitions, and to find out who you should write to and have your voice be heard. Most importantly, the Five Towns Civic Association needs your help. We can change the course if we stand together as one united group to oppose this disastrous plan.

Here is what you can do to help:

We need donations to fund our legal team and marketing materials. You can find a link on our website to donate money via PayPal or you can send a check to 5TCA P.O. Box 462 Woodmere, NY 11598. The suggested donation is \$500 but we appreciate any amount you give. We also need you all to write letters and get involved in any way you can.

We will keep you informed of the public meetings that will be held throughout this process and we will need you to show up in large numbers.

The following is a list of people you can write to. Choose one or choose them all.

Lawrence- Mayor Alex Edelman mayor@villageoflawrence.org

Cedarhurst- Mayor Benjamin Weinstock mayor@cedarhurst.gov

Woodsburgh-Mayor Lee Israel mayor@woodsburghny.com

Hewlett Neck- Mayor Ross Epstein villages3@optimum.net

Hewlett Bay Park- Mayor Steven Kaufman villages3@optimum.net

Howard Kopel Legislative District 7 hkopel@nassaucountyny.gov

You may also go here to sign his petition:

<https://forms.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Legis/LD/07/wccpetition.php>

Denise Ford Legislative District 4 dford@nassaucountyny.org

TOH Supervisor Laura Gillen lgillen@tohmail.org

TOH Councilman Bruce Blakeman dblakeman@tohmail.org

TOH Councilman Anthony D'Esposito adesposito@tohmail.org

PLEASE NOTE that Councilmen Bruce Blakeman and Anthony D'Esposito have promised us a study on the feasibility of purchasing the land or acquiring it through eminent domain and turning the land into a district park. They have been silent in this since May 2018. We must hold them accountable for the promises they have made to us. Write to them and demand more transparency, more open process and more community meetings to address this option before it's too late. Remember, these people work for you-YOU voted them into office and you have the ability to vote them out of office too. While these two councilmen represent the Five Towns,

all the council members have a vote in any future zoning changes within the Town of Hempstead.

Therefore, you should also write to the rest of the TOH council members:

TOH councilman Edward Ambrosino eambrosino@tohmail.org

TOH councilman Dennis Dunne ddunnesr@tohmail.org

TOH Councilwoman Erin King Sweeney ekingsweeney@tohmail.org

TOH Councilwoman Dorothy Goosby dgoosby@tohmail.org

You should also write to:

Nassau County Executive Laura Curran lcurran@nassaucountyny.gov

Sean Sallie, Deputy Commissioner ssallie@nassaucountyny.gov

NCPC (Nassau County planning Commission) jperrakis@nassaucountyny.gov

Ask him to forward your letter to each of the members of the commission. This is the agency that created the above-mentioned website and will be overseeing the entire project.

Please forward this email to your friends and neighbors and anyone else who wants to be informed and involved.

As always, 5TCA is always looking for volunteers, so please let us know if you have a profession, skill, talent or time to help us.

Together we CAN make a difference.

Thank you

Mario Alex Joseph

Peter Stein

Presidium, Five Towns Civic Association