



Kenneth Kovalchik <kovalchikk@togny.org>

Impact on the Environment Comment for DEIS Rapp Road Residential/Western Avenue Mixed Use Redevelopment Projects

1 message

Amanda Milne <zuspann10@yahoo.com>
To: Kovalchikk@togny.org

Thu, May 21, 2020 at 7:48 AM

Attention: Kenneth Kovalchik, Town Planner, Kovalchikk@togny.org

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed development by Pyramid (Crossgates) on Rapp Road, the Mall Road and Western Avenue to build up to 360 Apartments with up to 3 five-story apartment buildings, up to 50,000 sq ft of office space and up to 278,900 sq ft commercial expansive retail including including a Costco with a 700 car parking lot and a 16 pump gas station should be rejected because the following are not adequately addressed:

1. The Pine Bush borders the Crossgates expansion. The Albany Pine Bush is considered the best example of an inland pine barrens ecosystem in the world. The Pine Bush contains 78 wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need, including the federal and state-endangered Karner blue butterfly) and state-threatened frosted elfin butterfly, and the largest inland sand dune system in eastern North America. The site has been designated a National Natural Landmark, a National Heritage Area Site, a NYS Bird Conservation Area and a National Audubon Society Important Bird Area. Appendices F and G in the DEIS are inadequate to evaluate the impact of the proposed development on the plant and animal species in the Pine Bush.

2. The Pine Bush habitat is threatened by the expansion of this commercial venture, whether it is adjacent to the construction or a few hundred feet away. These species are important not only to the Pine Bush, but to the local ecosystem as well. The cumulative impact of this development plus other proposals on the Pine Bush is not adequately addressed.

3. The world is experiencing the sixth major extinction. The mitigation measures offered in the DEIS are inadequate to address the destruction of 46 acres of land. The proposed development decreases the size of the Pine Bush and the mitigation measures offer no possibility for expanding the habitat.

4. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is woefully incomplete because it does not adequately address the effect this massive development would have on the ecosystem of the Pine Bush, or the effect on plant and animal species.

Thank you,
Amanda and Jacob Milne
(Residents of Guilderland)

Sent from my iPhone

Public Comment: Rapp Road Residential/Western Avenue Mixed Use Redevelopment Project

1 message

Amanda Zuspenn <zuspenn10@yahoo.com>

Mon, Mar 16, 2020 at 6:45 AM

To: kovalchikk@togny.org

I am a resident of Westmere Terrance. My concerns with Cosco are as follows; sound pollution, lighting and smells of the gas station (since this will basically be in my back yard), traffic and the location of the entrance opening. I would LOVE to see Crossgates place large trees at the top of the hill directly across from the Costco to help us with sound, light and potential gas smells. Crossgates already promised us to fix the fence (for many years) but we really need the towns support to keep Guilderland looking nice! My husband and I just turned 30 and we have very young kids, we are almost at the point where we don't want to live in Guilderland anymore. This is a separate topic but the amount of apartment complexes going up is unreasonable and concerns me that our school district will not be able to handle the influx of new children. This aside I hope you are able to read this and take my valid concerns into consideration and help support the residents of Guilderland. We complain and voice our opinions because we want to keep this town beautiful.

Thank you.

Amanda Milne ([7 Westmere terrace](#))

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)