Dear Mr. Kovalchikk and Mr. Barber,

We are longtime Westmere residents and we are opposed to the current and future planned development of the Pyramid property. Before any development is approved, a comprehensive traffic study is needed that looks at the cumulative traffic impacts of this proposed 3-site development project on Western Avenue and Washington Avenue Extension and include the exit into Crossgates off the Northway, and the number of accidents now occurring annually.

This study needs to include Western Avenue during daytime and evening rush hour, as well as during the holiday season. As daily travelers in this area, we feel the impact of any development on the already overwhelming traffic is a primary point that needs extensive study.

We are also concerned about the effect on the natural landscape and the impact on all endangered or rare species identified as detailed by the Save the Pine Bush and/or the Albany Pine Bush Commission. We are very concerned about the overall long term effect on the Pine Bush and the number of animals, birds, and insects that will die from this project, as well as the number that will be displaced.

The town should require documentation of the need for more housing and more retail, especially on such a large scale project such as this one.

We also feel very strongly that independent experts should be hired to review all reports to insure that the needs and concerns of the residents of Guilderland are heard and considered before those that stand to make financial gains at the expense of our town.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth and Gregory Shields