
Crossgates Expansion/Rapp Road/Costco Project

1 message

Robyn Gray <robyn3201@gmail.com>
To: kovalchikk@togny.org

Mon, Mar 23, 2020 at 4:14 PM

I am writing this email to voice my opposition to the expansion of Crossgates Mall/Rapp Road area.

As we are all aware, part of the Pine Bush abuts the proposed expansion. Although Pyramid Corporation claims it is taking all of this into consideration, I do not believe that they are. With the proposed expansion to include a COSTCO with 18 gas pumps, there are numerous concerns that have not been adequately addressed.

The protected lands of the Pine Bush will suffer greatly from this expansion environmentally. There are emissions from the Gas Station, lighting from Light Poles and overall disturbance of the general environment by increasing commercial use of the land. These will all disturb the ecosystem that is currently in place and my fear is that it will be irreparably harmed in the process.

The homeowners who live adjacent to this proposed development face a total disruption to their lives during the building and operation of the project that could span several years. In addition, they will be subject to poor air quality, noise pollution as well as seeing an increase of migration of wildlife looking for a new habitat.

Although there are claims to reroute traffic and reduce congestion, it appears to be very inappropriate to set entrances off a residential street for a commercial purpose.

In addition, there are currently 7 functioning, small business/franchised owned gas stations from Carman Road to Church St. This is a distance of approximately 5 miles. By allowing a huge fueling station of approximately 18 gas pumps, you are encouraging big business rather than smaller, local businesses to thrive. I believe this goes against the type of businesses we want to see in Guilderland. If we do not promote local businesses, we will be subject to what larger corporations want, as in this case, than what the residents of Guilderland want.

I find it incongruous that one of the points being made about adding this business to the Crossgates Complex is that there is a bus or public transportation hub. A bus hub such as the one in place by CDTA is not what shoppers of these types of stores use. We all know that the goods you purchase in a store such as this are usually larger sizes, and do not always fit in conventional shopping bags. A person who is taking a bus is unlikely to shop at a COSTCO.

Robyn Gray
Guilderland