

Thank you for your continued attention to public concerns regarding the Thorndike Place project proposal. Although I appreciate the developers' attempt to incorporate some of the concerns of the residents by changing their plans to a building for seniors, the two major issues of environmental concerns and traffic render the development of this unique parcel of land irresponsible.

Flooding:

We have experienced significant rainfall this year, and many houses in the neighborhood have their sump pumps running 24/7, with pipes and hoses pumping water onto the street daily, and reports of flooding in homes. We have seen from the increasing pace of recent natural disasters both nationally and internationally that the effects of climate change will only exponentially worsen. It is dangerous and irresponsible to build homes for elderly and vulnerable populations on a wetland adjacent to a FEMA flood zone. We can learn a lesson from the tragic flooding in Western Europe over the past summer, which has killed and injured hundreds including in assisted living homes:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/the-latest-flood-kills-12-residents-of-assisted-living-home-frankwalter-steinmeier-germany-berlin-europe-rhinelandpalatinate-b1885364.html>

An April 2021 report on climate change and older people warned that adults aged 65 and older are at higher risk of dying during natural hazards:

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/07/21/german-flood-deaths-highlight-climate-change-risks-people-disabilities#>
<https://undocs.org/A/HRC/47/46>

We cannot afford to endanger elderly and vulnerable people and their property in order to satisfy corporate profit margins for Oaktree Development and the Mugar family!

Traffic:

The traffic increase proposed by Oaktree Development is absolutely unreasonable given the size of the neighborhood and the existing traffic burdens. Lake Street (the only artery out of the neighborhood) is already at a standstill mornings, afternoons (due to Hardy elementary school pickup), and evenings even during a pandemic. There have been measures tried to decrease traffic in the neighborhood including use of cones to create mandatory slow downs on Mary Street and signs barring entry at peak times. None of this has been successful as cars still constantly use the neighborhood streets to short-cut through traffic, and speed recklessly where small children play. An increase of cars due to the Oaktree development will overwhelm the already over-saturated neighborhood with traffic from the residents, staff, visitors, deliveries, emergency vehicles, and medical transport. This is a major concern for safety for the many families with young children in the neighborhood.

We cannot endanger children and families in order to satisfy corporate profit margins for Oaktree Development and the Mugar family!

Due to persisting environmental, traffic, and local concerns it is dangerous and unethical to develop this parcel of land. I implore you to use all means possible to stop this reprehensible development. Thank you for your service and for the opportunity to express my concerns.

Anna Kukharskyy
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