

Man #6  
Don #3 → Exhibit

Date: 10/2/18

To: Sycamore Township Trustess

From: Kathy H. Kugler, 7106 Tenderfoot Lane.

RE: Clean water and clean air in regard to Capital Development on Kenwood Road et al.

My experience and credentials:

Master Gardener, Purdue University

Master Composter, Civic Garden Center, Cincinnati

Urban Forester, Purdue University

9/27/18, 2018 Southwest Ohio & Northern Kentucky Storm Water Field Day, sponsored by Warren County Soil and Water Conservation

Great Parks Volunteer, Great Parks of Hamilton County

Stewart Elementary school garden volunteer, this school serves Sycamore Township students

Member Sierra Club Miami Group

Member Western Wildlife Corridor, Conservation Group

Past Girl Scout leader

Current Coordinator of IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) at St Barnabas Episcopal. IHN provides temporary housing to families without secure housing.

BS Edgecliff College, Sisters of Mercy

MS University of Evansville, Evansville, IN

Grandmother of 5

Mother of 2

Widow

I just wanted to establish I am educated and informed on environmental issues and have a deep commitment to the future welfare of our land.

I have lived in Sycamore Township for 3 years.

1. The Sycamore Township Land Use plan also calls for Green Space. No new Green Space has been developed in Sycamore Township in many, many years.
2. Conserving the existing Green Space is imperative for clean water, clean air, noise control, heat control, water run off mitigation and quality of life for the average resident. Green space definition does not just mean a large park, it can include protecting existing well established trees and land.
3. The 7 acres proposed for development, erases over 50 well developed, high quality trees. These include Oak, Maple, Evergreen and Poplar. Many of these trees are 40-50 years old. When I first heard of this development, I personally went there, measured the existing trees according to industry standard and labeled them on a map.
4. Oak Trees provide habitat for over 500 species of birds, insects and small animals. Without habitat with a wide variety of trees, bird life, insect life and wildlife are eradicated. The Food Web from these trees is vastly important.
5. Without high quality trees, air pollution increases and water cannot be maintained in the aquifer. Water that is routed to storm drains is not filtered of pollutants. Water held in detention ponds is then routed to storm drains, not slowly released to the aquifer. Trees are sponges for water, retaining, filtering and protecting clean water.

6. Without high quality trees, heat is released into the air, combining with traffic pollutants to produce toxic smog.
7. Without trees no oxygen is replenished to dirty air.
8. No trees planted after clear cutting will compensate for the removal of well developed trees that are of a wide variety. Clear cutting is a huge issue in the USA, it is not a 3rd world jungle issue. Since 2000, the USA has lost 6% of its forest areas.
9. Stream erosion is a result of high level impervious surfaces such as in this development. This erosion is costly, undercutting sewers, power lines. We have a good example of stream erosion in Sycamore Township at Bechtold Park. That stream erosion has severely undercut the sewer manhole.

Across the street and around the entire Kenwood Mall are areas of 80-90% impervious surface. This concrete area provides no habitat for various birds, insects or small animals. The trees existing there are poor quality and are chosen because they stay small. Many trees in these parking areas are dead and shrubs are dying from lack of water and heat. There is little release of oxygen to the air.

The proposed development takes away the shaded sidewalks that are used by residents, working people and visitors to the hospital. Shaded walks allow for people to actually walk, rather than drive. Shaded walks allow for quality of life. The new proposal does not provide any public spaces that are shaded and have mature trees. Their TV interview indicated they would widen the sidewalk and provide safe sidewalks. To do this, they would cut down the existing trees. No one can walk on sidewalks that are 100 degrees. So widening a sidewalk and cutting down the trees does not serve the public.

Several, not just one, high density developments have been turned down by the Trustees and Zoning commission. They were turned down because residents did not want their neighborhoods ruined.

<http://www.sycamoretownship.org/download/Planning%20and%20Zoning/Codes/Official%20Sycamore%20Township%20Zoning%20Resolution.pdf>

Each Sycamore Township Meeting opens with a prayer. I ask the Trustees to be stewards of the earth, our very own land. Stop paving paradise and putting up parking lots.

Our zoning regulations call for protection and quality of life for existing residents before unbridled development. The developers are not concerned with existing residents. Their intent is to squeeze out every single square inch with no regard for the people here. Their only constraint is you and how much money they have. They have no moral obligation or electoral obligation to us the citizens of Sycamore Township. You however, live here and were elected by us to protect us. Say no to this project and yes to protecting clean water and clean air.

Thank you for your attention to my presentation. Kathy Kugler

#### References:

Thermal Impacts, Stormwater Management, and Surface Waters

<https://www.unh.edu/unhsc/thermal-impacts>

page 4 of 5

IMPACT OF THE TRANSPORT ON THE URBAN HEAT ISLAND

[http://ijtte.com/uploads/2015-09-08/935be804-9e45-8fe8IJTTE\\_Vol%205\(3\)\\_3.pdf](http://ijtte.com/uploads/2015-09-08/935be804-9e45-8fe8IJTTE_Vol%205(3)_3.pdf)

**How Impervious Surface Impacts Stream Health**

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/streams/Pages/streamhealth/How-Impervious-Surface-Impacts-Stream-Health.aspx>

<https://urbanforestrysouth.org/resources/collections/parking-lot-design-issues-trees>

Wild Green Yonder: Oaks have tree-mendous food web benefits  
[https://pilotonline.com/article\\_09dfce51-65c3-59f9-9333-19c4021adbca.html](https://pilotonline.com/article_09dfce51-65c3-59f9-9333-19c4021adbca.html)

<https://milliontrees.me/deforestation-2/>