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**Subject:**

FW: KJ impact in re environment

From: Irving Newman [mailto:inewman43@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2014 12:13 PM

To: tim@timmillerassociates.com

Subject: KJ impact in re environment

As a resident of Highland Mills, living south of Ridge Road for more than 25 years, I have driven the roads close to KJ every day. I have witnessed the decision making process where a hill covered with trees has been changed into a series of apartment houses where almost every zone is used to place foundations and build homes. I never ask who pays for the buildings, or who lives there as I am a reform Jew and seek only happiness and comfort for the residents.

However, the manner in which children must walk upon roads that also carry cars driving 25- 30 MPH causes me great concern. Children's play toys are often seen in the road because they live so close to it. They can not help but become influenced by the level of noise, the carbon footprint or auto exhaust. The Satmar men wear black clothing, and they are hard to see when they walk the roads at night. Although some have started wearing reflectors, there is a constant danger for everyone's personal safety. The KJ residents built what was supposed to be a temporary walkway; it appears to be permanent as nothing has been no additional construction several years later. This creates a hazardous situation for both residents and drivers. It should be noted that the wooden walkway was done without legal authority.

I lived in NYC from birth on Hoe Ave in a high rise apartment without any elevator which was also a block from the IRT train. I lived to become resident of Monroe living in my own home of 1900 Sq. ft. so I understand that life decisions will be made with or without crowded life style...but living with more rather than less personal space has got to be more enjoyable and healthful. As the hill I drive between Ridge and route 208 has become carved into smaller and smaller subdivisions going further up into the once tree covered hill I doubt that the corporate builders of KJ live anywhere inside this maze.

I shop within KJ as opportunity offers reasons and see the diversity within the commercial center. Whether we are talking about the processing of chickens or flushing toilets, I have passed the sewage treatment plant on the south side of KJ, close to the State police barracks, where the air is all too often tainted with the smells of sewage. What ever the planned capacity for this small plant, I know without scientific training, the plant is operating beyond it's capacity. I often wonder if the DEC ever has its staff just drive close to this zone as they could not avoid sensing the strain of providing services for the current residents and commercial sites within KJ. To discuss expanding the physical zone of KJ without also offering a detailed plan to include future resident's and commercial sites

would be beyond foolish, but a decision that demands prosecution.

Just as the decisions that transformed an 18 inch pipe into a 24 inch pipe without legal authority might be worthy of prosecution, the movement to expand and develop without review of quality of life issues is without merit. The agencies that currently have oversight responsibility are clearly not operating on behalf of the residents of KJ or any of the near by communities. To first ask for the expansion of 500 acres and then reduce the request to 164 acres does not alter the detail that the leadership of KJ has not been thinking about building within the law, but rather just doing what they feel is within their rights. Waiting to be told by the State they must expand treatment capacity of sewage is a sign of the shallow vision within the KJ leadership. If they wanted public support they should offer a plan at this time along with the requests to expand "their" city limits. Getting water from the NYC pipeline is not going to answer the shortfall if how KJ leadership sees the quality of life for it's citizens or members.

I am only sorry I never started taking pictures as the KJ neighborhood has changed. The water stained retaining wall off of Ridge would be the first image and there would be many others. Beyond the quality of life issues, KJ just seems to work with impunity from the law as they block vote for candidates who are willing to sell their souls for whatever office they are seeking. I don't think anyone would deny growth and expansion for any population in a reasonable way, but there is no planning or forethought that seems to go into this for KJ other than the need for their growing population. Therefore, they simply resort to land grabs and just build, build, build.

Respectfully submitted,  
Irving Newman