

Commissioners; Greenwald, McKeown, Muldawer, Portner, Sharkey, Simon, Swavola:

I have been copying Mr. Kraynik on all the communication between Ms. Green from SEPTA and myself. A community meeting has been arranged and SEPTA representatives have agreed to attend to hear our input regarding the parking garage and transportation center that has been proposed for the Jenkintown-Wyncote station. The meeting will be on Monday, April 6 at 7:30 PM, with the SEPTA team at All Hallows church located on Bent Road at Greenwood Avenue. I understand that this is short notice; however, coordinating with many residents and SEPTA has not been an easy task.

The meeting that SEPTA conducted on February, 24, 2009, which was to be for public *input*, was structured to prevent it. Having residents write questions on small yellow slips of paper as they entered the building – prior to seeing the proposed plans for the garage and transportation center, does not qualify as public **input**. Input is defined as contributing, providing comments and integrating ideas into a process. None of this was permitted. Therefore we consider our meeting with the SEPTA team, on April 6, to be *our first opportunity* to exercise our right to provide public input for the planned garage and transportation center at the Jenkintown-Wyncote station.

The public input sought out at the inception of SEPTA's plans for the Jenkintown-Wyncote station has not, and does not, represent the community who will suffer the impact of this poorly conceived plan; to build a transportation center and parking garage adjacent to a historical residential district. There were two residents from Cliff Terrace in Wyncote, a small dead-end street directly across from the station's South parking lot that has 16 homes on it, who were involved with the beginning of the plans. Both of these residents no longer live on Cliff Terrace. In fact, they live away from the area and will not have to deal with the increase in traffic, crime and visual impact this project will bring to the community. They will not have to be reminded every day that approximately 47 Million tax payer dollars was spent to gain an additional 300 parking spaces and to meet ADA compliance. If built, this garage and transportation center will be a monument to the failed governmental policies that lead to the suburban sprawl that plagues our region. To build a transportation center to be an incentive to further the culture of using our cars, while neglecting stations and services up and down the rail lines, will only further the addiction to the use of fossil fuel, by forcing those in the outer suburbs to drive to the Jenkintown-Wyncote station for the convenient schedule.

The residents who live on the North side of Greenwood Avenue already experience traffic issues with a dangerous curve located between Glenview and Woodland Roads. It has been more and more difficult to exit our streets at rush hour. These residents and road conditions were not considered, as stated by the SEPTA representatives on February 24, 2009, in their planning. In fact, it was stated that they didn't realize we existed to be considered in their plans. Additionally, the school district bus depot is located on the North side of Glenside Avenue near Rices Mill Road. Glenside Avenue is the street for residents who live in the Glenside and Wyncote areas and the school busses to travel to the East side of the Township. The school bus traffic was not considered in SEPTA's planning to add another 300 vehicles during the day coinciding with the timing of school bus pick ups and drop offs. It should also be noted that during the inclement weather in the winter months, school bus pick-up stops are moved out onto

Glenside Avenue due to the inability for the buses to traverse the small local streets. This is a plan to put children at high risk.

Both my husband and I urge you to attend the meeting on Monday, April 6 at 7:30 PM at All Hallows Church located on Bent Road and Greenwood Avenue in Wyncote. We need you to hear our input to what is proposed for our community. You will find that the residents of this community are highly intelligent professional people who deserve your respect with your attendance.

Olga and Tom McHugh
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