

Dear Misters Portner, Kraynik, Greenwald, Sharkey, Swavola, Muldawer, McKeown, and Simon,

Thank you to those of you who have responded to the invitation extended to you to attend a vitally important meeting tonight at which township residents will give a PowerPoint presentation detailing our objections to SEPTA's proposed garage, including specific presentations revealing enormous flaws in their statistics gathering and analysis, their public-planning perspective, their ignoring of facts about crime in parking garages (not resolved by CCTV, as studies show), low-impact ways to increase surface parking and improve the train station without removing the historic station from service or building a garage, and much more. Whoever is willing to put aside other plans to make it tonight will be met with materials that we hope will make it clearer to you what the objections of your residents are to this garage and what can be done to solve problems at the station without a garage.

I do recognize that the meeting date, though long in the planning, did not give any of us much advance time when it was finally determined. Yet in the absence of your informed leadership to protect what is precious in our community from further degradation, dozens of concerned neighbors are making serious sacrifices in their work and family time, eliminating recreation entirely, and missing out on full nights of sleep to gather information to combat the parking garage and its aftereffects.

We did check township meeting schedules to avoid conflicts we could know about (aside from those in your personal lives) in scheduling this date. Please know that there is no way that the Public Works meeting on April 14 will be in any way comparable to the event tonight, unless you plan to allow us to present our PowerPoint presentation of about an hour to fill you in on what you will miss this evening, which I believe we would be willing to do.

I hope that tonight we will be honored with the presence of those among you who are able to change plans or otherwise accommodate this recently scheduled but vital public event at All Hallows Church at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully yours,
Janet Benton
Wyncote, PA