

Gentlemen,

As a resident of Cheltenham for the past 18 years, I have both questions and serious reservations regarding the proposed construction of a parking garage at the Wyncote/Jenkintown train station. I know that you are well aware of the widespread community opposition to this project. Before I pose my questions, I want to briefly summarize some of the most pressing concerns below:

1. Potential for increased crime at the station and decreased safety for the neighborhood
2. Dramatic increase in traffic and congestion on our small and winding streets
3. Transformation from an aesthetic/historic community into an urban "transportation center"
4. Decrease in property values, marking an exodus of residents leaving the community I would appreciate an answer to the following questions from each of you:

1. Why is this project still "on the table?" Although SEPTA may perceive that it will increase their revenues, why is it even being considered as a viable project in our community?

2. If it is still "on the table," what benefit do you see it having for the residents of our community? Could you please be specific about this? For example, how will having commuters from other townships who travel here solely for the purpose of using the train serve to increase our business tax base? How will it improve resident tax concerns? How will it improve the aesthetic qualities of the community? How will it increase our property values?

3. Have you enumerated how much more the township will need to pay for the increased need for road maintenance and police presence at the station and in the community? Have there been projections made for this for at least the next 10-15 years?

4. Has there been consideration about how this will affect the school district, given the extremely close proximity of the bus depot, as well as the close proximity of Cedarbrook, Cheltenham High, and Wyncote Elementary Schools?

5. Have you researched SEPTA's history of compliance with maintenance and safety at its stations and garages. Have you seen the state of disrepair at the recently constructed Norristown Station? Have you reviewed SEPTA's history with our own station, and how they disregarded promises to keep a substantial green buffer when they expanded the south lot some 20 years ago? Have you walked through the underpass below the tracks lately? Even if SEPTA seems genuinely committed to uphold from now. Once the decision to build the garage is approved, it is here to stay. Forever.

I would appreciate your prompt reply to these questions. I look to you to serve the public's best interest, not SEPTA's. If you think that building this garage will improve our community, then I would

welcome your input. If you do not think it would improve it, then I would appreciate information regarding when this plan will be discarded.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Gail Post

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