



Kenneth Kovalchik &lt;kovalchikk@togny.org&gt;

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## Regarding Rapp Road Residential/Western Avenue Mixed Use Redevelopment Projects

1 message

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**Karen Holmes** <karen.annie.cohen@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: Karen Cohen Holmes <karencohen@alum.mit.edu>  
To: Kovalchikk@togny.org

Tue, May 26, 2020 at 3:09 PM

To the Town of Guilderland Planning Board:

It is clear from what I have read that you should reject the DEIS as well as the actual proposed development by Pyramid for this area. It is shocking to me that a massive clear-cut of trees was allowed on March 26th. I believe strongly that the Pine Bush is a regional and national treasure and should not be sacrificed for one more apartment development, office buildings, a big box store and parking lots. Particularly at this time, when no one knows what the housing market, the commercial real estate market or retail will look like post-COVID19, it seems an unwise move.

As it stands now, the kinds of development being considered seem to ignore what's good for the neighborhoods adjacent, the environment, the wildlife and the region in general. When I was a graduate student in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT, it was always impressed upon us to listen to what citizens wanted, to respect the natural resources of an area and to include those people affected in any planning efforts. From what I've read, so far that doesn't appear to be how this project has proceeded. I hope you will correct that.

Yours sincerely,  
Karen Cohen, MCP

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