



Kenneth Kovalchik <kovalchikk@togny.org>

Fwd: Objection to Costco Project

1 message

Robyn Gray <robyn3201@gmail.com>
To: kovalchikk@togny.org

Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 10:54 AM

Dear Ken,

I am attaching another copy of my letter to the town regarding another point of opposition to the COSTCO project in Guilderland. In this particular letter, I attached an article from FORBES magazine..

This letter and article were NOT published on the Town Website as they should have been. I would appreciate you adding this to the Letters in Opposition.

Thank-you
Robyn Gray

I am writing to voice my objection to the approval of a Costco to be built by the Pyramid Corporation at the Crossgates Mall.

There are many many reasons for the Planning board to disapprove this project that include environmental, disruption to the surrounding neighborhood, increases in traffic not only on a Western Avenue but also in the nearby neighborhood.

I would like to call your attention to an article written by Stephen Congel who is the CEO of Pyramid. Mr. Congel wrote an article for Forbes Magazine, dated June 26, 2018. In this article, he touts the importance of mixed use in malls such as what occurred at Destiny in Syracuse and what is happening now at at Crossgates and that his model is how you deal with 'Retail Apocalypse'. He further states that Malls should be repurposed with large 'box' stores being placed INSIDE the mall rather than nearby a Mall Complex.

His article touting this 'business' model is the exact opposite of what is occurring at Crossgates. How can this town, in particular, you as the Planning Board approve such a measure by a man or corporation who goes against its own statements. If we are being lied to as a community now, what is in store down the road.

I urge you to deny this project as it is proposed. There are vacancies within the mall structure itself that can be repurposed for this project.

I have attached the link to this article

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesrealestatecouncil/2018/06/26/there-is-a-right-way-to-develop-mixed-use-centers/#1cb0b1721f2e>

Robyn Gray
Guilderland
Sent from my iPad