

From: Mayor
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2016 4:16 PM
To: Brian Gray; Carl Finger; Steve Pappalardo; Manager's Department; Barbara Langford
Subject: Re: Proposed Parking Lot at Hyatt Field

Dear Ms. Langford -- This acknowledges receipt of your email.

I spoke to the Village Manager this morning and understand that the Village staff has met to discuss this issue and the process moving forward. The process will include further public discourse at the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council meeting scheduled for October 19, 2016, at 7:30 pm in Rutherford Hall, in Village Hall. At that meeting the Recreation Superintendent and Village Engineer will present an overview of the proposal to accommodate parking in the baseball outfield area.

For the present, no construction work is being done with respect to this parking proposal.

Very truly yours, Jon Mark

From: Barbara Langford <barbara.langford@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2016 2:40 PM
To: Brian Gray; Mayor; Carl Finger; Steve Pappalardo; Manager's Department
Subject: Proposed Parking Lot at Hyatt Field

Dear Mayor Mark, Trustee Finger, Mr. Pappalardo, and Mr. Gray -

I was shocked to hear from neighbors about the proposed plan to construct a large parking lot on the side of Hyatt Field. As a homeowner who resides directly across the street from Hyatt Field on Boulevard - I would expect that the Village would seek the input of residents most directly affected by the proposal. Yet none of my neighbors on Boulevard were engaged to clarify the problem or help craft a workable solution.

I strongly oppose the proposed plan to construct a parking lot in Hyatt Field and urge you to table the proposal. It's a permanent, destructive, and costly plan for an easily remedied and relatively limited issue.

The downsides of this proposal are clear: our neighborhood loses precious open green space. That space in the outfield is used for neighborhood football games, soccer practice, cross-country practice, flying kites, playing tag and parents and kids throwing a frisbee or having a catch. You take

away green space and you take away recreational opportunities for kids and families.

Adding a large parking lot with a two-lane road and circular driveway, along with a huge fence that would be required to ensure cars aren't hit during games, not only removes valuable open green space, but destroys the entire aesthetic of the park. It would transform a beautiful neighborhood park into a commercial-like setting. Moreover, the parking lot wouldn't be used by those using the playground or ball fields the vast majority of the time (as these are seasonal and short-term uses) and would invite nonresident usage, increased trash, and increased need for surveillance. We would gain parking spaces that would only be used for a limited number of hours for a limited number of months of the year at huge costs.

I want to clarify the parking challenge from my perspective as a resident living directly across from the park. It's true that more cars park on Boulevard and Potter during baseball and softball games. It's also true that usage of the playground has increased since the installation of new equipment. Neither has resulted in a situation that warrants the extreme proposal under consideration. Increased usage of the playgroup will likely drop over the near term as the novelty of new equipment wears off. Use of the playground also decreases significantly in colder months -- making this a seasonal issue. Regular use of the ballfields also are seasonal in nature (Sept - Oct and April - June) and limited in duration -- games typically are no longer than 2 hours. For the ten years that I've lived here, it simply has never been an issue for me. I'm concerned about our local education policies and plans. I'm concerned about the overall village budget and tax policies. I'm not concerned about people parking on my street for a couple of hours during a baseball game.

There are a number of simple, cost-effective solutions that can address the short-term and seasonal parking challenges that I urge you to consider:

1. Enforce existing parking laws: ticket cars not parked legally during high-usage times. A few parking tickets would discourage the practice of those who to choose to park illegally.
2. Prohibit parking on one side of Potter Road and enforce that law. Again, if your concern is unsafe parking on Potter Road, ban parking on both side and ticket cars not following the law.

There are plenty of street parking spots along Potter Road south of Boulevard and on several other side streets toward Eastchester. Anyone attending a baseball game at the Fox Meadow, Edgewood, or Greenacres

fields regularly parks a block or two away on side streets without complaint. That is a completely reasonable expectation for those who seek to use Hyatt Field as well.

3. If you truly feel that the existing number of parking spaces within a three block radius of Hyatt Field still don't meet the need for the limited number of hours of high usage, then widen Potter Road to enable parking on both sides of the street or add diagonal spaces on the field side of the street.

All of these are effective solutions to deal with playground traffic without the permanent destruction of valuable open green space and the costs of parking lot construction.

I urge you to consider a solution that is commiserate to the limited and seasonal parking challenge we face and would welcome further opportunities for discussion where residents directly affected by their proposals could share their ideas and concerns.

Best,
Barbara Langford
146 Boulevard