

LOWER MERION NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION

Report and Update

This short flyer will update you on the continuing campaign to stop Kohelet's unwarranted and intrusive expansion into the quiet residential environs of Merion in which we all live.

Three hearings before the Zoning Hearing Board have now taken place with the most recent one occurring on October 22nd. The next hearing will take place on **Thursday, November 12th at 7:15 PM** in the Township Building. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! A strong turnout of neighbors is important for success in convincing the Zoning Board of the obvious fact that all of us instinctively understand, namely that: ***If it is allowed to proceed, the Kohelet expansion will have an irrevocable adverse impact on the quality of life in our neighborhood.***

Our goal is to make the officials on the zoning board understand a simple fact that our neighborhood already clearly understands - the Kohelet expansion will compound the problems that we already face from traffic, inadequate water management, noise, safety and security concerns and the inevitable effects caused by the number of institutions already in the area.

Kohelet will continue to present its case on the 12th. As someone who will be adversely impacted by the expansion, you have a right to ask questions of Kohelet's witnesses and you will have an opportunity after Kohelet's case has been presented to make a statement of your own views directly to the Zoning Board.

In addition, several neighbors have retained a lawyer and a number of technical experts in various fields to challenge Kohelet's assertions and to present the case in opposition to the expansion. The Lower Merion Neighborhood Coalition also has retained a lawyer and technical experts to lend a further voice to the case against the expansion. The Merion Civic Association and the Neighborhood Club of Bala Cynwyd have each adopted resolutions opposing the expansion.

What can you do to help save our neighborhood from this unwarranted and wrong-sized intrusion that will forever change the residential ambience of Merion? What can you do to stop the demolition of two old stone homes and their mature plantings? What can you do to stop the introduction of additional traffic onto our already overburdened residential streets? What can you do to stop the noise that will come from an expanded institution? What can you do to stop the adverse impact on storm water management that will come from the construction of large additions to the existing Kohelet buildings? What can you do to send a message to the Township officials that institutions must not be permitted to expand in our residential neighborhoods in a willy-nilly manner simply because they have a rich backer with the money to buy houses and land to be converted from residences to institutions? What can you do to convince the members of the Zoning Board of the self-evident fact that the expansion will have an adverse impact on Merion?

The answer to these questions is simple.

FIRST, show up and make your voice heard at the hearing on Thursday, November 12th at 7:15 PM in the Township Building. You are a citizen of Lower Merion and it is your right as a citizen to be heard.

SECOND, make a contribution to help pay the costs of the battle – a form is attached to make it easy for you to contribute. Lawyers and experts are important to enable us to win the battle, but they are expensive and we are working with limited funds against an opponent that is willing to use its unlimited funds to try to overwhelm us and make the Zoning Board swallow its bogus argument that the expansion will not have an adverse impact on Merion - but those of us who live here know full well that it will have an adverse impact.

HELP US MAKE THE ZONING BOARD UNDERSTAND THE DANGEROUS AND ADVERSE IMPACT ON ALL OF US IF THE KOHELET EXPANSION IS ALLOWED TO PROCEED.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU – AND HEARING YOUR VOICE – ON **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH AT 7:15 PM** IN THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING.

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