

LOWER MERION NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION

REPORT AND UPDATE FOR MARCH 7 HEARING

The most recent hearing held by the Zoning Hearing Board pertaining to a proposal for the dramatic expansion of the Kohelet Yeshiva High School campus in Merion took place on Thursday, February 25. The next hearing is now scheduled for Monday, March 7 at 6:30 pm at the Union Fire Association fire house (2nd Floor), located at 149 Montgomery Avenue in Bala Cynwyd.* The March 7th hearing will almost certainly be the **final** zoning hearing on this matter.

Throughout the lengthy hearing process which began last summer, we have heard hours of testimony from Kohelet and its expert witnesses. Those many hours of testimony from Kohelet were filled with misleading statements, inaccurate characterizations of what will happen if the expansion is approved, and attempts to present contorted interpretations of the Township's zoning code. The goal of all of Kohelet's testimony has been to distract the attention of the Zoning Board and the residents of our neighborhood from a simple truth – the proposed expansion will have an adverse impact on the health, safety and welfare of our community. The proposed expansion is not suitable for the site.

Throughout the lengthy hearing process we have cross examined Kohelet's witnesses and presented expert testimony that directly contradicts the misleading statements of Kohelet's experts. **NOW THE TIME HAS COME FOR YOU TO BE HEARD** at the final hearing. All interested persons will have an opportunity to make a statement opposing the expansion and explaining why you believe this institutional expansion will have an **adverse impact on the health, safety and welfare of our residential community**.

- The expansion will generate additional traffic on our already overburdened streets.
- It will have a negative impact on storm water management.
- It will increase noise levels by bringing additional students, playing fields and traffic
- It will demolish two lovely stone residences
- It will change the nature of our neighborhood from residential to institutional

Join with us at the final zoning hearing on March 7th. **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD**. Help the Zoning Board understand the adverse impact that the expansion will bring. You do not need to make a fancy or lengthy speech. **BUT** you do need to voice your opposition by being there and expressing your views on March 7th. **NOW IS THE TIME**.

WHEN: Monday **March 7** at 6:30 pm

WHERE: Union Fire Association (2nd floor of firehouse)
149 Montgomery Ave, Bala Cynwyd

LOWER MERION NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION

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*If you need assistance getting to the hearing, please contact us and we will help. Call Nicole at 215-543-6902