

Belmont Redevelopment statement March 22, 2018

My name is Laura Ferone and I am the Vice President of the Floral Park-Bellerose School District. I am here tonight on behalf of our school district and the 1500 students we serve ages 4 through 12.

We have particular concerns about any development on the Green lot where the PSEG substation is being considered. This lot lies adjacent to the Floral Park Bellerose School which is the home to approximately 900 students and dozens of staff; not to mention about 1000 children and their families who utilize our fields on weekends. It is separated by the Belmont property by a chain link fence.

Our concerns are with regard to safety, including noise and environmental hazards which may occur during any construction phase, as well as the dangers of Electro Magnetic Radiation during plant operation, not to mention the frightening potentials should there be any type of plant failure or accident. I would like to point out that this substation will need to support over 20 megawatts of electricity and PSEG is considering placing three feeder cables from this new substation to the substation located on Plainfield Ave between the main line and the Hempstead line which happens to be adjacent to the John Lewis Childs School. This could potentially expose an additional 650 elementary students to Electro Magnetic Radiation.

In addition, this lot is also being considered as an active parking lot giving uncontrolled access and an unobscured view of our children to strangers. This lot is also a Floral Park Bellerose School evacuation site in an emergency. Any development must include a buffer zone from our school so that we can safely evacuate students in an emergency.

In addition, I am also a trustee for the high school district. Floral Park Memorial High School is located on Plainfield Ave but it is not within the range of study as it lies on the east side of Plainfield Ave. I ask that this area be included in the study area as there are 1500 students and many staff, and there is an

entrance to the Belmont property directly across the street from the high school. Our student athletes actually cross Plainfield Ave and practice in areas on the Belmont property regularly. Please take this into consideration.

With regard to the hotel, please keep the height of the hotel to a minimum. Let's take a lesson from the Las Vegas tragedy, particularly when two of our schools will be openly exposed if the height is not regulated. In addition, please consider reducing the overall size of the hotel as the demand for such a hotel has not been proven and it seems that the only reason to have a 250 key room hotel might be if the endgame is a casino.

It seems as though much of the fallout from this development is the urbanization of the suburbs.

Our district has spent several hundred thousand dollars upgrading our security systems and making our schools a safe haven for our students. Please consider this as we don't wish our children to be sitting ducks in their own school yard in the name of progress.

Thank you!

Laura Ferone, Vice President of the Floral Park Bellerose School District