

Statement of Marc Mullen, President of the West End Civic Association and Belmont Task Force Member at Village Board/Belmont Task Force Information Session, Jan 3, 2019

Good evening.

The west end of Floral Park is the direct neighbor of Belmont Racetrack. From our perspective the 2 biggest issues we are facing is the North Lot and Arena Parking. The Newest ESD Impact Statement places 4,000 spaces for Arena Parking in the North Lot. The North Lot is the parking lot adjacent to Floral Park Bellerose School and many homes in the west end. The latest model has cars coming to over 300 arena events per year, parking their vehicles in the North Lot and being Shuttled to the Arena. Can you even imagine the noise pollution and quality of life violations that we will have to deal with on a daily basis.

Most concerts, sporting events, etc...start at 7pm, so by 5PM we will be subjected to crowds of patrons tailgating and basically partying in our backyards. What about afternoon events where patrons to the Arena will be parking when the kids are playing recess in the back of the school. Many sporting events in our Community use Floral Park Bellerose School on nights and weekends for practices or games.

SO this affects everyone! As of this moment, nothing separates the North Lot Parking from our schools and homes. There is a theme these days called "Build A Wall". Doesn't matter right now on your political beliefs, but we need some sort of buffer between us and the Arena Parking. Whether it be a Noise Canceling Wall or a Wall of Shrubs we need to get the point across that we don't want to be subjected to living next to an active parking lot. We also must be aware of patrons trying to skirt the entrances and park in the west end.

I am pretty certain that the new Arena is going to be an expensive place to park your vehicle, what is going to stop people from trying to park in the west end and finding their way into the Arena. 8 years ago, when I joined the West End Civic Association, I joked that we should put gates around the west end to make it exclusive, well that's not so funny anymore. We need to protect our families, our home values and most importantly our schools. Everyone needs to get involved to curb this massive project. **WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE DONE TO PROTECT US FROM THE PARKING LOT?**

SPEAK OUT, LET YOUR COMMUNITY LEADERS KNOW. THE MORE PEOPLE WHO SPEAK UP, THE BETTER CHANCE WE HAVE. The sign

when you drive into the Village says "A Great Place to Live", we need to fight to keep that slogan alive.