

## Speech to Town Council

I want to start by introducing myself, my name is Sally Trauco. I live at 13 Littlejohn Rd and my lot is on the border of the proposed development site and directly behind building H on your diagrams.

I moved into my neighborhood in 2003 and quickly found that the neighborhood was all I had expected it to be....small and friendly with a quaint and rustic charm. I operate a four star daycare home and have for the last 15 years. Any decisions I make concerning my views of this development are attributed to both my personal and business life.

I, along with others, have met with Harold Bowles to discuss this development on many occasions throughout the last two years or so. I have found them to be both open and approachable. I am unfamiliar with formal town proceedings and so will put my considerations in simple terms.

I struggled with questions about **what** I may want developed in that area since learning of it's potential to be developed. I can sum up what conclusions I've come to by simply stating that **Woodmont is in line with that**. Though I was opposed to five story office buildings exclusively, I like that they have added retail and some residential. I like the idea of being able to walk to Doctor's offices, stores or café's. I would however, like to see more mixed use on the site.

They have made a commitment to us to put ample landscaping to block us from a bulk of the parking and lighting. I do believe that the quality of their buildings is superb and have visited some of their older sites and find them well groomed and cared for still today.

I am pleased that our road will not connect to the development. Our road is very narrow and often filled with our pets, walking people and children riding bikes or playing basketball. It is this microcosm of life at a slower pace that I think makes all of us in Sherwood Forest in awe of the special nature of our little neighborhood. I don't think our neighborhood is a good candidate to have more traffic down our road. Speaking of traffic...

My only concern, and one that would be a factor with **anything** that eventually gets developed there is of our access to Hwy 54 from Littlejohn.

**I am shocked that the Dept of Transportation has not already addressed this issue. Just last year a man was hit and killed while riding his bike on 54 directly in front of Littlejohn by a visiting University's activity bus. I hear sirens daily and during rush hour you can expect a backup beyond the entrance of our road. By the comments made by the parents of the children in my daycare who enter and leave my neighborhood every day during rush hour, it has become a hazardous chore getting onto 54. I myself have had long wait times to enter 54 and many close calls while dropping my children off at school in the morning. It is my hopes that if something commercial goes into this area, we are more likely to get DOT's approval on a light. I have seen the proposed traffic improvements by Capital Associates and I think other than the proposal to close Stancil between Downing Creek and Littlejohn, they are offering a valid solution to our problems.**

**I want to thank the Town Council for allowing me time to voice my opinions on this matter and have complete trust that the council will make wise decisions on our behalf. Thank you.**