

Chapel Hill Town Council  
Town Clerk  
Parks and Recreation  
200 Plant Rd.  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Wednesday, February 09, 2005

Dear Council:

Attached is a petition I would like to present at the upcoming town council meeting on Monday, February 14, 2005 in regards to the potential Legion Road Homeless Men's Shelter location. I will bring the signed copy with me to the meeting. I recognize the town's three-minute limit on citizen oratory and will be brief when called on.

I appreciate your time and effort in serving as stewards of the town. Your work is very valuable!

Regards,

Fred L, Lybrand

Fred Lybrand

fred\_lybrand@umc.edu  
(919) 931.0606

**Monday, February 14, 2005**

To: Mayor Kevin Foy  
Cal Horton  
Chapel Hill Town Council

From: Residents of the Pickard Oaks Community

Subject: Opposition to proposed homeless men's shelter on Legion Road

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To the Mayor, Manager and Town Council of Chapel Hill:

We, the undersigned, residents abutting Legion Road, submit this petition to demonstrate our opposition to the proposal to relocate the men's homeless shelter to the Chapel Hill Memorial Cemetery on Legion Road. We strongly urge the mayor, manager and council to consider more appropriate sites for this facility.

We the undersigned believe the Legion Road site is inappropriate for the following reasons:

- 1) A shelter at this location would endanger and irreparably harm the Pickard Oaks community and the other residential neighborhoods adjacent to the Legion Road site.
- 2) This location is less than a quarter mile from the Wee Care daycare center, a nursing home/assisted living facility, a new charter school and many businesses that would be negatively impacted.
- 3) The location is less than half a mile from Ephesus Elementary School.
- 4) Residents who are thrown out of the shelter for substance abuse or behavior problems would then become the problem of the surrounding communities.
- 5) The wooded area surrounding the cemetery would draw additional homeless to the Legion Road area and constitute an additional nuisance/safety threat to the adjacent neighborhoods.
- 6) Many residents walk along Legion Road, including children and the elderly, for recreational and other purposes. The site lies along the route many walk to the Food Lion in Ram's Plaza to buy groceries.
- 7) The residential communities surrounding Legion Road constitute the ideal for Chapel Hill: diverse homeowners and a mix of subsidized housing with houses under \$300,000. Putting a shelter in this area would damage the very sort of community Chapel Hill wants to encourage.
- 8) The documented problems with the existing shelter, panhandling, drug abuse, alcohol abuse, and other nuisances, and its residents would simply be moved from downtown to a residential area.
- 9) There is already a panhandler problem off of I-40 on exit 270. People's first impression of Chapel Hill is that of vagrants. This will further an already negative town image.
- 10) A shelter would instantly lower property values in the neighborhoods surrounding Legion Road, including Pickard Oaks, which would not serve the town or its residents.

We thank you for the opportunity to present our concerns.

Regards,

Pickard Oaks Homeowners Association Board