

(Westwood) Plans are appealing, would benefit town

As adjoining neighbors to the proposed Westwood neighborhood project, my husband and I are in support of this development.

We have lived in the adjacent neighborhood for 29 years. The second revised draft generic environmental impact statement from October, which was accepted in December by the Town of Amherst for further public review, is exciting to us. The proposed intelligent design and mixed-use along with recreation trails and ponds is very appealing.

We are avid cyclists and appreciate the incorporation of the recreational trailway, the development of ponds and a stormwater detention lake, and the incorporation of neighborhood businesses for a vibrant mixed-use neighborhood.

The overall design is appealing to us as we plan our next move and want to remain within this section of Amherst, instead of moving elsewhere to another new development outside of the town.

Developing this acreage into a mixed-use neighborhood and the accompanying tax roll revenue to our town makes both fiscal and community planning sense. The area is close to two exits of Interstate 290.

It is unfortunate that a vocal minority are raising the “not-in-my-backyard” mentality, rather than relying on public officials to ensure that any water runoff issues are properly engineered to make this property a benefit to all. This area of town is currently well-served with recreational opportunities.

Those opposed to this development and promoting spending taxpayers’ money — whether local or state funding — to purchase this property and ultimately removing it from the town’s tax rolls, are not fiscally responsible.

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