

Jaswal, Gagandeep

From: Jessica Bisogno [REDACTED]
Sent: 2025/04/04 5:02 PM
To: Jaswal, Gagandeep
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]Town Hall meeting April 7



Good Afternoon,

To Whom it May Concern ,

I am a resident of Ward 10 and am proud to say I was born and raised here.

I had the privilege of growing up here, at Countryside Rd and McVean Drive, when Countryside wasn't a linear road, Castlemore Country Club was our community centre and the roads were, at the time, actually safe to ride our bikes on. My siblings and I were raised in our home that my father built from the ground up 40 years ago. It is supposed to be our safe place, our haven, and the home my parents can spend their time with grandchildren making more memories in.

Unfortunately, what our community has become today is absolutely deplorable and not even a fraction of what my childhood memories are.

Congested streets, car accidents at every corner, endless crime, and illegal trucking yards to name just a few of the more important pressing issues at hand. I cannot stand by anymore and allow all of this to happen to our Beloved Castlemore without saying a word.

The proposed rezoning of a residential area to put a commercial plaza and/or a condo building in our area is a very very serious attack on the sanctity of our residential borders. I have lost faith in our leadership and would have hoped that they would use their power to stop such projects. Under no circumstances should a commercial plaza be facing people's homes, with the parking lot almost in their backyards. It's quite an absurd and obvious notion that I am even embarrassed to say outloud. Furthermore, a condo building facing newly built single dwelling homes while basically in the backyard of other estate lots is damaging the uniqueness of this area. In fact, both proposed projects will only bring down property value and increase crime. Adding more traffic and chaos to an area that is already suffering is not in the best interests of the long time residents as well as new residents in the area .

McVean Drive and Goreway Dr are still two lane roads - there is no room for widening. There is plenty of evidence that shows enough people have been injured because of this influx of homes and traffic on a road that's not equipped to hold it all. Why would the area need another commercial plaza when there are multiple newly built ones within 10 kms of the proposed space? Why would the same area need a condo building when there are hundreds of new homes to choose from? Perhaps the committee can release the data they've collected or that has been submitted for proof that this is necessary for the area.

If such plans come into fruition, who will be held liable for the inevitable crime rate skyrocketing or traffic congestion or worse happening? I invite the members of this committee to allow a parking lot, bar and stores to open in their backyards and ask how they would like it. Furthermore, I encourage the committee and our mayor to review traffic accidents in the area specifically at those intersections and reevaluate if adding more to them will help us here. I can't speak for everyone in the community but being woken up at 3am by a drunken patron from this proposed plaza is not something I'd like to see happen.

Nonetheless, as a lifelong resident, I encourage our leaders and councilmen to use their positions to stop this development and utilize their time and energy to focus on ways to make our community better instead. Estate lots pay too much in property taxes to not feel comfortable taking a walk on their street during the day or night. Perhaps a portion included in our quarterly payments can be spent on private security, a new focus on proper storm water drainage so our streets aren't flooding or even basic park maintenance - to say the least, there are more important things to worry about.

I have sadly watched what's happened to our community with such disappointment and dismay, I can't even believe it's the same place I grew up in.

We are supposed to feel safe, we are meant to trust our leaders and most importantly we should be shown that those we have elected only have our best interests in mind when making decisions, and unfortunately, none of those things are the case anymore. I hope that these projects are vehemently denied and that our leaders can rally together with the fellow residents to ensure that what is left of our community remains intact for years to come.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,
Jessica