

From:
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 10:36 PM
To: Maren Toohill <MToohill@littletonma.org>
Subject: Middle School Tennis Courts Concern

Warning – THIS EMAIL WAS SENT BY AN EXTERNAL SENDER

Dear Mr. Michalski & Ms. Toohill,

Subject: Urgent Objection to the Proposed Construction of Tennis Courts and Soccer Field at 55 Russell St.

I am writing to express my grave concern and strong objection to the proposed development of tennis courts and a soccer field at 55 Russell Street, behind my property at 31 Russell Street. While I understand that this project is part of a broader development plan, I am deeply worried that its construction will have profoundly negative consequences for our neighborhood, particularly for my family and me.

My primary concern centers around the significant increase in noise levels that would result from tennis and soccer activities, especially during peak hours. The noise generated by games, cheering crowds, and public events would be a severe disruption to the peaceful environment we currently enjoy in our home and yard. We greatly value our privacy and tranquility, and the introduction of these facilities would directly undermine these qualities, which have been integral to our quality of life.

In addition to the noise, I am very concerned about safety and privacy issues. While the proposal includes fencing around the tennis courts, it does not address the need for a sufficient barrier between our property and the fields. Currently, the only barrier is a line of arborvitae, which I believe is inadequate for ensuring the safety and privacy of my family. More concerning is the lack of a fence around the soccer field or along the property line of the middle school. Given the close proximity of the proposed development to my home—so much so that my house appears in the proposal's renderings—I strongly feel that this situation presents security risks and the potential for unwanted intrusion. This matter cannot be overlooked.

Furthermore, the anticipated increase in traffic and parking demands are troubling. The influx of visitors and players will likely lead to significant congestion on local roads, creating unsafe conditions for residents. This strain on local traffic and parking would not only be inconvenient but could also create dangerous conditions for pedestrians and drivers, particularly during busy hours.

Environmental concerns are also a priority for me. The construction of these courts and fields is likely to lead to increased runoff and further loss of green space, both of which are already limited in our area. I would appreciate more information on how the developers plan to address these environmental impacts and what steps will be taken to protect our community's natural resources from further degradation.

Given that our neighborhood is residential, I strongly urge that alternative locations for this development be considered. The current proposed site is not suitable for such a large-scale recreational project, as it would disrupt the lives of local residents and degrade the peaceful, family-friendly environment that makes this area so special. I believe there are other locations that would meet the needs of this project without compromising the well-being of the people who live here.

If this project is to move forward, I respectfully request that you consider implementing a few specific measures to help mitigate the impact on surrounding residents:

- A clearly enforced closing time for the facilities
- Lights to be turned off at 9pm
- A fence along my property line to ensure privacy and security
- A noise curfew be clearly posted

Thank you for your time and attention to this pressing matter. I sincerely hope you will take these concerns seriously and reconsider the development at this location. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and explore alternative solutions that better serve the community while minimizing the negative impact on residents.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Colleen Senecal