

Holmdel

1984

Holmdel Resident's letter to Judge re objections
to construction

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5 Plum Lane
 Holmdel, N. J. 07733
 October 26, 1984

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Judge Eugene D. Serpentelli
 Superior Court
 Toms River, N. J.

JUDGE SERPENTELLI'S CHAMBERS

REF.: Mount Laurel 11 Law

Honorable Sir:

I am a long-time resident of Holmdel Township as well as a life long resident of the "once beautiful" State of New Jersey. I have been a very proud resident of both and supported the officials all these years. I now feel it is the duty of all the local residents to voice their opinions on this matter, if we are to keep our "rural look".

Recently, some idiot came along with a bill, Mount Laurel 11, to take away our freedoms. I have written my opinions and complaints to our Mayor, but now I feel I should go a little higher in the complaint department.

We old timers followed the zoning regulations when we bought our properties to build in this town with no objections as we realized what it would mean. I feel we should continue to keep our zoning so that we can be proud of the rural look and as a place to prove that New Jersey can still be called the Garden State, and not the State of Housing Developments as it soon will be called. Progress is fine, but a line must and should be drawn some place and some time.

Sir, would you like to have the "riff raff" of low income housing in your backyard? I think not, and I am sure you, too, would object. Would you purchase a very high priced home in the same development that would also have these low income homes, mobile homes, etc.? Again, I think you would object. What will eventually happen is no one will buy these high priced homes, they will remain idle, targets for vandalism, deteriorate and all this money "gone down the drain"

Has anyone thought in terms of common sense instead of dollar signs for the contractors, and construction people?

1 - Only people from the slums of Newark, N.Y., etc. will come into the area. They will be very eager to keep their homes and property clean until "the novelty" wears off and then it will go downhill and be an eyesore.

- # 2. These people will not be able to find jobs locally and will have to commute to their jobs which means less take home money and probably the inability to carry the finances of the home....homes will either be abandoned or left unkept and we now have a slum area forming. If they can afford to commute, then they do not need low income homes.
- #3. Our zoning requires one acre per building, one family homes only, and this should also apply to these new houses - we were made to do it.
- #4. What about the water table problems? On the Laurel Avenue and Route 35 property this was the problems which caused the cancellation of the Mini Mall being constructed. Has this problem been cleared? We, behind this property, will be flooded out every time there is a heavy rainstorm and who will be responsible for the damages?
- #5. With the addition of all these people it means added police, equipment, additional firemen and equipment, and you know who will have to foot those bills, we the old time resident. We do not need any increases in our taxes to pay for the pleasures these people can sit back and enjoy. There will also be a need for additional schools, teachers, buses, etc., again at our expense. Most of us have paid our share to the schools when we had our kids in the classes so why should we be required to pay the education of these total strangers?
- #6. With the added number of people, there will be more sickness and emergencies. Our First Aid people are now understaffed and overworked as well as the local hospital and it's staff. Again added monies need.
- #7. Traffic will be a problem, roads overloaded and needing repairs more often.
- #8. Lastly, bringing in all these people also means we are subject to more crimes, drugs, alcoholic problems, etc. and I, for one, do not need any of this in my backyard at this late time in my life.

These are only a few objections, but I feel I should try to prove a point for the residents.


I want you to know that I feel everyone is equal and deserves a chance to better themselves and their living conditions, but not at the expense of others. My family was poor when I was growing up, so I know the feeling, but we struggled, saved a little at a time, and "bettered" ourselves with no help from anyone. There are plenty of open spaces, unused farms on Route 34 which could be built upon and not interfere with anyone living close by. There are plenty of houses that have been neglected, that could be renovated and sold cheaply to anyone really interested in a home.

I wonder if these Developers (if not in the Construction business) would object to the Lount Laurel ll Law and building if it were in their backyard?

I know you are a very and understanding man, and the last thing you need is this letter, but I feel if the individuals do not express their feelings, no one would know how we feel and a wrong decision could be made. I further feel that if the towns involved would issue questionnaires to the residents to complete on the issues a tally could be made to help a final decision. I think that the Townspeople should have some say in this decision. I would not object if the homes were built on the Laurel Avenue Route 35 property for only Senior Citizens as I feel they should be given more help and consideration than the younger people - seems everything is for the young people in this country and nothing for the seniors who built this country for the "young ones".

Thank you very much for your times, patience, understanding, and hopefully the decision in favor of the residents. I trust you will give this much consideration.

Sincerely,


(Miss) Edith M. Durrbeck

c.c: Mayor Popolo, Holmdel Township