

Your Worship, Mayor Nenshi and Members of the Council. My name is Rev. Dr. Miriam Mollering. I am a **certified behavioral consultant, with a PhD in psychological Counseling, an ordained clergy** but **most of all I am a resident of Harvest Hills**. We first lived in the area in the early 90's and relocated due to employment and then returning to the area in 2013.

Why return? We love the area. For example, my husband and I appreciate (1) hearing and watching a mother owl and its young one, (2) watching an osprey fly freely and (3) enjoying the presence of other wild life. Having this oasis in the City speaks well of how we, including previous City council value the environment. May we not regress on that core value.

And yes we also purchased in the area because of the golf course and green space. This is, we hope, will be our retirement home. However, the proposed retrofit denigrates the community we bought into by endeavoring to create a new high density community.

In essence a vote in support of this development is a vote **against** a healthy functioning cohesive and environmentally sensitive and respectful community and a vote to support a high density, overcrowded, community. It is a disregard for the existing community and our voices. And it will be destroying our environment which is a digressive not a progressive decision.

The emotional impact, while invisible to you and not factored into any report, nevertheless, it exists. For example, frequently I hear, what are they doing to our community? Don't they care about us? Where would we move if they start to build and destroy our retirement space?

This proposed rezoning and land development has thrown our lives and the lives of many residents in our community into uncertainty, angst, stress and distress. All of these are potentially mitigating factors in the health and wellness of people. As a psychological Counselor, clergy and a volunteer with Alberta Health Services and a Chaplain with Calgary Police Services I interact with hundreds of people on a regular basis both professionally and personally. **The possibility of losing the home and lifestyle we planned for the future is devastating.** Something is being taken from us...**and it is.**

And we also lose the club house. The absence of a community activity centre diminishes and negates the essence of community. For example it was a place of belonging and connecting for breakfast or lunch...and enjoy outdoor activity with a game of golf. Now we look at weeds....and lots of them.

This development and possible retrofit is NOT in the best interest of community. Such a proposal contravenes the very essence of community and respect for existing residents. The psychological and emotional toll cannot be measured in dollars and cents but rather **in the lives of people. People should matter. People must matter.** That is a core value we must embrace if our communities and society are to survive and thrive and maintain a reasonable balance of emotional and physical health, and respect and dignity for people. May we never become just a commodity or statistic, we are people. We are the residents whose lives you are responsible for.

This is NOT the message we get from the proposed developer. In fact after looking at their web site where they state their vision is to **"build mutually rewarding relationships."**

However, some of us sent emails to the developer regarding their vision'. Sadly they did not have the common decency to respond. Furthermore in a public meeting Mr. Ollenberger laughed and appeared to make light of what we the residents were feeling.

That was reprehensible so I reminded him that the situation was no laughing matter for the people who live in our community. And third, the residents who live around the golf course had to **repeatedly** call Bylaw to get the developer to cut the grass which was an eyesore. **A "mutually rewarding relationship"? I think not.**

As my mother always taught us "you may get what you want but you may not want what you get." To the Mayor and members of the Council, Choose wisely...**we the people do matter.**

