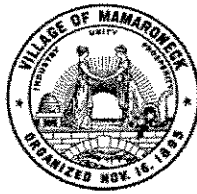


Village of



Mamaroneck

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OFFICE OF
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May 8, 2009

Editor
The Journal News
Transmitted via e-mail to
letters@lohud.com

To the Editor:

As the Mayor of the Village of Mamaroneck, it was with dismay that I read about the impending loss of the Ridgeway Country Club in White Plains (*Buyers gather as course goes on sale, May 6, 2009*). As many may know, the Village of Mamaroneck is located at the bottom of the 28-square-mile Mamaroneck/Sheldrake River watershed and over time, we have suffered from severe flooding, most recently in March and April 2007.

The potential loss of "130 or so acres" of open land could be a devastating blow to those of us who live down river from the Country Club. As evidenced by the recent authorization of a tri-partite watershed study agreement between Westchester County, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, flooding is a regional issue. Regional problems require regional solutions.

The potential development of this prime open space into housing with its roads, rooftops, driveways and other impervious surfaces will definitely impact the Village of Mamaroneck and that impact could be huge. On behalf of all our residents, I urge the persons involved to try to preserve these open acres that are so vital to the management of stormwater and flooding. As an alternative, the City of White Plains, the County of Westchester, non-profit organizations, private individuals or a combination of all of the above can and should look at alternatives to preserve this land as open recreational space.

We understand the tough economic times but this is exactly the right time for everyone to step up and realize that we all must participate in solving the flooding problem in Westchester County. We cannot alter the geography or history of Westchester County or the Village of Mamaroneck. However, we can start making smart land use decisions with the knowledge we now possess about flooding and watersheds. The people who live and work in the Village of Mamaroneck beg everyone involved to always keep the bigger picture in mind and do what you can to preserve the open land and control excess storm water and flooding.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Savolt

List of cc's attached

Letter to Editor
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May 8, 2009
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cc (via e-mail):

The Honorable Nita Lowey
The Honorable Andrew Spano
Westchester County Planning Commissioner, Gerard Mulligan
Peter Eschweiler, Chair, Westchester County Flood Action Task Force
The Honorable Judith Myers
The Honorable Joseph Delfino
John S. Garment, Chair, White Plains Planning Board
William C. Janeway, NYSDEC
Eugene Brickman, USACE
Tom Shea, USACE
Jodi McDonald, USACE
Tom Anderson, Westchester Land Trust
Village of Mamaroneck Trustees
Village of Mamaroneck Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee
Richard Slingerland, Village Manager