

## Thomas Harrigan

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**From:** Adam Romeiser III <adamromeiser@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 20, 2019 10:17 PM  
**To:** Village President Neil Palmer; Village Trustee John Domaszek; Village Trustee George Haas; Village Trustee Kim Irwin; Village Trustee Patrick Kressin; Village Trustee Thomas Michalski; Village Trustee Katy Cornell; Thomas Harrigan  
**Subject:** Caroline Heights area planning

To all those involved in this planning process,

First of all, my wife and I would like to thank you for your commitment to our community and all the hard work and deliberation you have poured into these plans. We recognize that this is challenging and that you are trying to balance multiple different interests while envisioning what is best for our community as a whole. Nevertheless, we felt an imperative to share our concerns.

In brief, we live in the Caroline Heights area, just east of the convent, and believe it would be significantly affected by the addition of anything but single family homes to our neighborhood. Building townhomes on a street that empties onto Red Barn Lane would significantly increase the population density and traffic patterns of our neighborhood. Currently our children can walk to and from school at St. Mary's without any difficulty, but when you add in townhomes (which admittedly is less obtrusive apartments in the neighborhood), the car traffic increases substantially and the walkability and bikeability for children decreases. Having reviewed the overall plans, both walkability and bikeability seem to be priorities. Are the plans for townhomes and multifamily housing where the convent is going to negatively affect these measures of community well-being? Furthermore, what will happen to the charm of this quiet residential single family home neighborhood?

If you are not sure, please go to a townhome community that is accessible only by driving through a residential area of single family homes. Consider visiting several. We believe that you will leave wondering if you would want to live in a single family home adjacent to these townhomes. In saying this, we don't mean to express any disdain towards the individuals living in townhomes. We have family members living in such dwellings and have enjoyed visiting them in their homes for years, but apart from the benefit of living close to our loved ones, we would not want to own a single family home next door to their townhome units. In addition to the traffic problems, the neighborhood feel is lost and the surrounding single family homes lose both appeal and value. If townhomes and/or multifamily unit housing are built here and connect to Red Barn Lane, the existing slow pace of our neighborhood would be exchanged for the hustle and bustle of a much faster-paced America. Safety, beauty, cohesiveness, and property value would all suffer. It goes without saying that this would be even more true were apartments to be built in the immediate vicinity. Single family homes in a neighborhood where only such homes currently exist is the best way to go.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts.

Best,

Adam & Julia Romeiser