

Sayville Public Schools



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Sean Colgan
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Town of Islip Planning Department
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Re: LP-CZ2020-003 (0500-407.00-05.00-023.000) Jn. Nazzaro Partnership LP Request for Zoning Change

Dear Mr. Colgan and members of the Town of Islip Planning Department,

The Sayville Union Free School District is aware of the pending Zoning Change from a B1 to B3 for a fast-food drive thru relating to the property located on the southeast corner of the intersection at Montauk Highway and Atlantic Avenue in West Sayville. We ask that the Planning Department not approve the zone change. Our concern is that the increased traffic resulting from the zone change would endanger the families that commute to our schools. This includes school walkers/bikers, buses, parent drop off vehicles and student/new drivers. Please refer to the attached list of students and buses that will be negatively impacted by the zone change.

First, the surrounding residential area is not engineered to handle the increased volume of traffic that this zone change would bring. The signaled intersection at Montauk Highway and Atlantic Avenue/Tyler Avenue is very close to the intersection at Montauk Highway and Cherry Avenue as well. Our district has a High School and Elementary on Cherry Avenue. We currently have a crossing guard stationed at Cherry Avenue and Montauk Highway using the crosswalk a few feet east of the properties existing drive through. This intersection is an existing danger only having one lane in each direction, a public bus stop, CVS, and Fire House. It is unique given the proximity of the intersections to one another. The volume of traffic existing this facility, whether it be at the east driveway or exiting onto Atlantic Avenue, is of significant concern. Our crossing guard is there daily and understands the current danger at this intersection and the significant volume that a B3 fast food drive thru would bring is a safety hazard to our

students and community. Montauk Highway and the surrounding streets of Atlantic Avenue, Tyler Avenue, Cherry Avenue, and greater West Sayville are not engineered for such traffic.

Second, vehicles exiting the property to head east on Montauk Highway will have the option to make a right and a quick left to head north on Cherry Avenue. Which is concerning for students using the crosswalks as well.

Lastly, Montauk Highway does not have a center left turn lane to safely ensure this volume of traffic would be able to make a left across into this property off Atlantic Avenue. Even if a turning lane existed on Montauk Highway, the increased traffic volume waiting to make a left-hand turn onto Atlantic Avenue to enter a fast food drive thru will cause congestion through the Cherry Avenue intersection thus endangering student walkers, bikers, busing safety, and vehicle commuters.

Given the student and community safety concerns highlighted in the letter, the Sayville Union Free School District does not endorse such a zone change.

Respectfully



The Sayville Board of Education