

Taylor Vande Velde

From: Pamela Rodriguez

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:03 AM

Subject: Concerns with Trans-System Truck Development Plan (City case #FP24-0030 / PR24-0019)

Hello,

My husband and I attended the neighborhood meeting on Oct. 22nd to hear about the proposed new truck terminal facility in Olathe, KS. I understand that you are having a Planning Commission Meeting on Nov. 18th to vote on this, and we want to share our concerns and suggestions. We own several properties along Grant St and Elm, and many of our neighbors are very upset. Will you please share this with the correct planning department staff/leaders at the City of Olathe?

1. **PLEASE don't cut down any of the Trees** along the backyards of our properties. The developer said they'd cut down 33% of the trees, and that is not acceptable and Way too many trees. The mature trees are needed for privacy, barrier to sound of trucks, barrier to lights, pollution, and a beautiful view from our backyard. Please, require the developer/company to not cut down the trees for a 'retention pond' for the huge concrete parking lots; can't they move the retention pond to the other side and save the trees that are in the back of many houses along Grant Street? This is very important to the neighbors. In some areas, the trees are already sparse/thin, so we don't want more taken down. When the City did the Stormwater project a few years ago, the city paid some of us a few hundred dollars and a Bunch of trees were taken down and replaced with 2 small trees. It will take 20 years for the trees to grow and provide privacy and sound barrier.

2. **Need to put up a tall steel barrier Fence** - not just a chain link fence with barbed wire on top (that would look terrible). The tall steel barrier fence would help with privacy to residential homes, and help us with the sound, site, bright lights, pollution, and look better overall. That will make the people living near the truck facility a lot happier.

Also, this is the historic "Original Town" area in downtown Olathe. We appreciate all the work and money and time going into reviving the downtown Olathe and valuable Original Town area, yet this seems like making the neighborhood worse and not improving, which could lower property values having a huge truck stop in our backyard.

Thank you for considering our concerns and request regarding **Saving the Trees and adding tall Fencing** at this development.

Pamela Rodriguez

From: Jonathan Braswell
Subject: Trans System Development
Date: November 18, 2024 at 12:14:38 PM CST

Hello Wayne

I'm writing as a resident of South Grant Street in Olathe, near the proposed Trans-System development. I'm very concerned about the intended removal of a significant portion of the tree line behind our homes to make room for a retaining pond.

That tree line isn't just a strip of greenery; it's a vital part of the local ecosystem. It provides a place for all the wildlife to live. Animals like deer, coyotes, foxes, possums, raccoons, rabbits, hawks, owls. Otherwise they'll end up in our yards, sheds, etc.

There are heavily used train tracks here just to the east of us. The development is planning on eliminating a very vital noise buffer. Once the development moves in with all the projected trucks and semis, it's going to be even louder and not pleasant at all.

Do you know how high the water table is here in our neighborhood? High enough that it takes days to dry out a hole intended for a fencepost, if not weeks! All of that asphalt is going to impact the ability of the area to soak up stormwater. Leave the trees alone to continue to help with managing the run-off.

I urge you to consider what it is we are losing with this intended project:

- Peaceful green views that are focused on quality of life for neighborhood walks and a safe place for wildlife.
- No longer will the trains be muffled and the increase in traffic noise will be very apparent.
- Our neighbors with basements often comment how wet they get when we have rains. Less asphalt and more native plants to soak up the rain and stormwater!

I urge you to sacrifice some of the parking spaces for this project and push the pond to the east to give the tree line the space it needs. It's an easy fix to keep the neighborhood pleasant, give the wildlife a home and the Trans-System project a place to be.

Your neighbor

Jonathan Braswell
www.StraussPeytonKC.com
913-649-1595

From: Julie Creek

Subject: Trans System Trucking

Date: November 18, 2024 at 10:45:37 PM CST

Dear Mr Janner,

We are aware of a proposed development to the parcel of land north of Jett trucking company. We are long time Olathe residents and do not see this as an asset to our area. The loss of tree line will open up a great deal of noise from trains and trucks from the proposed trucking company. It will misplace many varieties of wildlife that our family enjoys watching including deer, owls and hawks. We ask that the tree line be left completely intact and that the proposed retention pond be moved further East to preserve the existing tree line. If this plan is approved, we would like to see a high wall installed to provide additional protection against any further noise pollution. We appreciate your time in listening to our concerns and would like to come to an amicable solution.

Thank you.

Timothy & Julie Creek

From: Jessica Eichman
Subject: Jett Trucking Co. CONCERNS
Date: November 18, 2024 at 12:23:33 PM CST

Eichmans
612 s Grant st
Olathe, KS, 66061
Jlynn.lopez@gmail.com

Jett Trucking Co. And City of Olathe

Dear Wayne Janner,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding your proposed expansion project, which involves adding additional business buildings and clearing approximately one-third of the woodland area adjacent to your property.

While I understand the need for growth and development, I am deeply concerned about the impact this project may have on the local environment and surrounding community. The woodland area provides an essential buffer between your operations and nearby residential areas, helping to mitigate the noise and air pollution from the train tracks and truck station. Given the already high levels of noise from these sources, I fear that further development could make the situation unbearable for local residents.

Rather than removing such a significant portion of the woodland, I urge you to consider alternative solutions that would preserve this natural space while still allowing for business expansion. One such option could be the installation of a fence or other soundproofing barriers to help reduce the noise pollution from your operations. This would not only protect the local environment but also help maintain the quality of life for the surrounding community.

I hope you will take these concerns into account as you move forward with your plans. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter further and explore potential solutions that benefit both your business and the residents in the area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Concerned neighbors

From: Kaela Braswell

Subject: Protecting Our Neighborhood's Tree Line and Quality of Life

Date: November 15, 2024 at 6:20:41 PM CST

Hello Wayne,

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Kaela Braswell, and I live on South Grant Street in Olathe, near the site where Trans-System is planning their new development. While I understand the importance of progress and growth in our community, I have serious concerns about the proposed removal of a significant portion of the tree line behind our neighborhood to make room for a retention pond.

This tree line provides critical benefits to both the environment and the quality of life for local residents:

1. **Wildlife Habitat:** The tree line is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including deer, foxes, coyotes, rabbits, raccoons, opossums, hawks, and owls. Removing even one-third of this habitat will displace these animals, forcing them into our yards and further disrupting the delicate ecosystem.
2. **Noise and Visual Buffer:** The trees serve as a natural barrier against the noise from train traffic and would be invaluable in buffering future noise from the semis and trucks that the development will bring. This buffer is vital to maintaining the peace and quiet that drew many of us to this neighborhood in the first place.
3. **Stormwater Management:** Our neighborhood is plagued with a high water table. Many of our neighbors have basements that leak and it's especially terrible when we have heavy rains that give us anywhere from 5-9" in a single day. The proposed parking lot will increase runoff, and while a retention pond is necessary, sacrificing the tree line is not the best solution. Trees and native vegetation play a key role in reducing stormwater runoff and improving soil absorption.

I urge you to advocate for an alternative design that protects the tree line and preserves our neighborhood's character. Specifically:

- Relocate the retention pond to the east or reduce the size of the parking lot to accommodate the pond without impacting the trees.
- Require the use of native prairie grasses and other sustainable landscaping to manage stormwater effectively.

Olathe has always prioritized environmental stewardship and quality of life for its residents. By preserving this tree line, we can demonstrate that progress and nature can coexist harmoniously.

I would be happy to discuss this issue further or provide additional information. Thank you for your time and your commitment to our community.

Kaela Braswell

Strauss Peyton Studio

11836 Quivira Road Overland Park, KS

www.StraussPeytonKC.com

913-649-1595

Facebook.com/StraussPeyton/

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Linkedin.com/StraussPeyton