

## Rezoning of Oak Lawn Cemetery

Dear: Planning Commission:

I wanted to say a few words on my concerns with the rezoning to allow this to happen.

I would like to know what all the families that had purchased a plot for their loved ones under the impression this would be a park like setting and not a commercial setting. People for many years have placed their trust that this land would look like a park and be calming. Now they want to add a 10,000 square foot building. The cemetery stated at the meeting that they did not inform them of there plans. One lady that was at the meeting has family there and she did not seem pleased especially since this was the first, she heard about it and only because she worked for the church were the meeting was held.

We were told when purchasing our house that this land could only be used for plots. Property values of all the HOA's close to this will take a downward hit – ours will take a large hit due to the extra maintenance the pond will now require of our small HOA causing our HOA dues to increase.

Our subdivision has had to complain every since our homes were built to get the cemetery to do simple tasks such as mowing the areas that do not have plots, allowing dirt piles to grow past code till they look like large weed hills, standing water, and the maintenance area that is trashy looking. I just drove through the property and they have dirt piles every where and even a large green trash dumpster. Our HOA has asked the cemetery over the years for help with the pond costs that is partial in the cemeteries property only to get no place and no help as we continue to pend 10s of Thousands over the year to keep it looking good and continually get dirt from the cemetery that is filling it in so that now it needs to be dredged.

At the meeting were the cemetery explained there plans they had very few answers to our questions, one answer that struck me was that they let it slip they will close their current location and move it all to this building. That means the traffic will increase approximately 200-300% more than it is now as they want to add more business, they stated that it would be hard to keep both facilities open. They also mentioned that they want to work with us and be good neighbors but not once have they stepped up and done anything without complaints. Funny that they removed all the negative complaints from there website when they started this endeavor (this does not show being truthful).

Please consider the school buildings across the street that have pick and drop offs throughout the day and the extra traffic will affect them. One is a special needs facility, plus all the administration buildings and a Middle and High school only a block away.

We only have one entrance/exit to our subdivisions and no stop light so extra traffic will be a major safety concern as its already hard to see and pull out.

So many issues with this plan that they could not answer at the meeting. They did not give any of us a positive feeling about how they will make this happen to keep neighbors satisfied. No real talk about landscaping to keep this from becoming an eye sore – they currently do nothing with landscaping to improve the grounds so I do not see any change from current situation as no track record that they really care about the neighbors.

We have a serious water drainage issue from that land and once they get the approval to build, I feel that things will get worse and we will have to continue to cover the cost of the pond maintenance that is required for water management and that they will not continue to not keep the property maintained and will have to be called out before they fix anything as there history proves. We continually have to ask people using our pond that its private property as they park on the cemetery side and walk over. Safety concerns as we already hard time keep people that do not live here off the ice as more people will see that we have a pond and want to fish in it.

CLOSING - If they wanted to make a good impression to show that they want to be good neighbors, they would have spent time cleaning up the property and doing improvements before they pitched this proposal. Instead they did not follow protocol by not contacting the surrounding Home Associations, the Home owners of rental properties and the clients who have purchased plots or have loved ones there. This does not show that they really care to be good neighbors. They did not even invite any council members to the meeting. Drive around this area and you will see that they have made no effort to make a good impression and that they want to be good neighbors.

I employ you to vote not to rezoning this land.

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