

Hello Mayor Meed-Ward and Members of Council,

My name is Matthew McQueen. I am in Grade 7 at Fern Hill School and I live in Millcroft, Burlington.

I am writing to you to express my belief that the proposed development of the Millcroft Golf Course should be stopped immediately. The proposed development will result in the complete destruction of acres of green space which is home to many species of animals and most importantly, hundreds of mature trees. As adults, you are aware of what Science has been telling us for decades- we are in the middle of a **CLIMATE CRISIS**. We must act now to protect our environment and our green spaces, to ensure that they exist for future generations.

To quote climate activist Greta Thunburg:

"I want you to act like our house is on fire, because it is.

We need to focus every inch of our being on climate change because if we fail to do so then all our achievements and progress have been for nothing. All that will remain of our political leaders' legacy will be the greatest failure in human history.

Some people say that we are fighting for our future, but that is not true. We are fighting for everyone's future.

I'm sorry but saying everything will be alright while continuing to do nothing at is not hopeful to us. In fact, it's the opposite of hope. Yet this is exactly what you keep doing."

The Golf Course is home to hundreds of mature trees that clean our air and filter pollutants out of the environment on a daily basis. These trees, shrubs, and plantings also absorb pollutant gases (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulphur dioxide and ozone) and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark. Once these trees are gone, it will take years to replace them. If you allow this proposed development to go through, you will be directly contributing to global warming and it is just not right. You will be trading our future for short term "progress". Think about your own children and grandchildren and the legacy that you want to leave them. Once the beautiful, open, green spaces of Millcroft are bulldozed and destroyed, we can never get them back.

**Destroying this precious green space in the name of profit and "progress" puts our future at risk.**

So I respectfully ask you, Honourable Mayor, members of Council, and the rest of the planning committee:

**You know the risks that global warming and the destruction of precious green space pose to your own children and generations to come... so, what side of history do you want to be on?**

**Please, Keep Millcroft Green.**

Respectfully,

Matthew McQueen