

Not something you hear often but I want to thank the golf course for being a good pandemic partner to the community, in 2020 and 2021.

I acting as delegate as a community member and golf leader for the area.

This presentation has small additions since my letter to the city on January 18, 2021.

I have closely followed the development proposal from Millcroft Greens to destroy our neighborhood and golf course. My family is an original property owner and our house was completed in late 1992. We moved to Burlington and bought our property because of the reputation of Burlington as a family city, size of the lot, the golf course and associated prestige well documented in the advertising of the time. Our three children and 5 grandchildren are now proud local residents.

There is no question that we paid for that privilege of Millcroft. Even more all those who have invested many thousands for backyard pools, outdoor kitchens and dining. None of these neighbors did this to 'enjoy' a neighbor's patios a few feet from the mandated 'see through' fence'. This is an excellent neighborhood where nature and beautiful homes blend together. The golf course itself is always in excellent shape thanks to the greens keeping staff. Our neighborhood would be changed for the worst.

The rest of my comments are a result of my golf experience where I am currently member of two Millcroft golf leagues (which I usually walk to). I am captain (2019-21) of the Wednesday Men's League with 50- 80 active members.

The golf course had holes shortened and the best Burlington driving range was re-developed in the late 90's. Many homes filled that area. When the driving range disappeared so did teaching programs as a result the junior golf program disappeared. The golf course became less busy in the period around 2000 from these modifications. My experience is that is very busy in the last 5 years and extremely busy in 2020.

The development proposal and public conference on September 21 ,2020 contained several potential inaccuracies.

The safety of the Golf course :

I have golfed in many places around the world. Millcroft golf course is close to some properties but compared to similar courses especially in Florida and California this distance is large. In these locations golf is played virtually played on the edge of people's backyards with no fences.

Believe me a palm tree does not provide the same safety as a fir tree. In the last 20 years heavy tree planting and growth has increased the safety of most homes. Unfortunately tree cutting has taken down some mature trees in the last 3 years caused by disease. That being said - there is no golf course in the world that would guaranteed the safety of the home owner.

The safety of golfers, however, has never been addressed as we cross increasingly busy streets 8 times in the course of 18 holes. I must note that this becomes even worst with the redevelopment plan since a transit of about 500 feet currently involves cars, people and golf carts sharing road space.

Clearly this has not been intended to be implemented.

Have any of these experts of September 2020 every played the golf course?

The redevelopment will somehow be in tune with the environment :

Many creeks wind though the golf course. In extreme conditions even the wooden bridges have floated away. I cannot see how building homes near these creeks cannot provide further problems. The many and various animals that live in these 'wild' areas will immediately be affected. Replacing mature trees with those from a nursery is a sham.

An executive golf course will provide more Revenue/Profit for the course :

There is not one golfer in our Wednesday group that will play this new configuration. Experienced golfers will move elsewhere. Some have already left. New less experienced golfers will move in with more wayward shots in a much smaller space (less safety if that were the concern).

- To make these changes and 'mature' the course for play will take 2 years (full closure likely).
- An executive golf course will provide 25% less per round (\$56 today will become \$40 or less)
- There is no standard with the long walks which would provide data that this course will take less time to play.

This is Phase 1 of a veiled attempt to get the property re-zoned and advance development of the full golf course. Our community members will live with a further 10 years of disputes and huge construction delays in an already congested and fully developed Millcroft community.

Please do not re-zone our community.

Mike Lothian