

**PLANNING
COMMISSION
EXHIBIT #119**

To: Old Saybrook Planning Commission

From: Kathy Connolly, 60 North Cove Road, Old Saybrook

12/8/04

There is an item of potentially outrageous future liability to Old Saybrook taxpayers that has been largely ignored throughout these hearings, an item of such significance that it must be brought into the public discussion. The current plan has no access on Ingham Hill Road, a road that is paved up to the edge of the proposed development. Though the pavement ends, the undeveloped and unmaintained road - which the town never legally abandoned - continues as an Old Saybrook right-of-way through the property. Is it true that Old Saybrook is obligated to provide safe and reasonable road access to any abutting property owners on the undeveloped portion of Ingham Hill Road who, by petition, request it? And if it is true, how will it be paid for? It is my understanding that Old Saybrook would be on the hook to develop and maintain Ingham Hill Road, including responsibility for all health and safety issues, if the new Preserve residents petition for it. Please correct me if I'm wrong. Do I understand correctly this would occur at the expense of all Old Saybrook taxpayers, not just abutting property owners, and not the developer.

Was this expense - both initial and ongoing - figured into Lehman Brothers' rosy picture of tax benefits to Old Saybrook?

Can anyone seriously believe that the new homeowners won't request feasible and prudent access to the town where they will pay taxes, send their children to schools and Parks & Rec programs, use the Senior Center, and will get their fire and emergency service? How will parents in The Preserve feel about their children having to catch the school bus from Route 153? School buses don't typically travel on private roads. Will there be an exception in The Preserve?

If this plan is to be approved at all, it must carry the contingency that the developer will pay for

the Ingham Hill road development. Otherwise, you are paving the way to a huge future tax and bonding liability for the town's residents.

What about Bokum Road access? The current application has none from the development site to Bokum Road. It has a connection to another undeveloped property - the Peanta property -- that's not part of the current application. As far as this application is concerned, the roadway ends at the property line. I don't see how this can be considered a complete application without being able to consider the completed access plan.

I request the Commission to heavily weigh these access issues - and the future liability for Saybrook taxpayers - in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Kathy Connolly