



Susan Bysiewicz
SECRETARY OF THE STATE
CONNECTICUT

July 16, 2008

Mr. Stephen H. Devoto
Westfield Residents Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 373
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

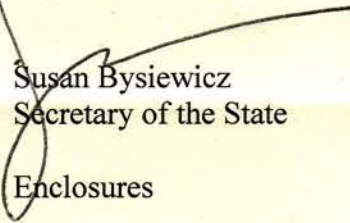
Dear Mr. Devoto:

Thank you for your letter of July 2, 2008 and for our conversation on July 14 regarding the decision of the U.S. Army to place the BRAC Army training facility on Boardman Lane in the Westfield section of Middletown.

Enclosed please find copies of letters I sent to Mayor Sebastian Giuliano of Middletown, United States Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro, United States Army Secretary Pete Geren, and Major General Martin of the Connecticut Military Department.

I understand that the Middletown Common Council will hold a meeting later today to address your concerns and those of other Westfield residents. While I cannot attend this meeting, I support your efforts and encourage you to contact me at (860) 509-6200 if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,


Susan Bysiewicz
Secretary of the State

Enclosures



Susan Bysiewicz
SECRETARY OF THE STATE
CONNECTICUT

July 16, 2008

Mayor Sebastian N. Giuliano
Town of Middletown
City Hall
245 DeKoven Drive & Court Street
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

Dear Mayor Giuliano:

The Westfield Residents Association, Inc. and other residents of Middletown have written to me regarding the 88-acre parcel of land on Boardman Lane and Middle Street that has been identified as the proposed site for the new Base Relocation and Closure Act (BRAC) army training facility. These Middletown residents have met with the Army Corps of Engineers and have shared with them various concerns with the placement of the army training facility in the Westfield section of town. Enclosed please find copies of the letters they sent me listing their concerns. These concerns are:

1. Boardman Lane is a secondary road that is inadequate to accommodate the added traffic and the specific nature of that traffic flow into the new facility. They allude to the fact that no trucks are currently allowed on Boardman Lane.
2. Middle Street is a two-lane thoroughfare that already has significant commuter traffic flow.
3. Adjacent roads such as Bell Street and Sawmill Lane are small roads that are used by cyclists and hikers and could not accommodate large military vehicles and trucks without seriously impacting regular pedestrian and local traffic.
4. Because the proposed parcel of land is isolated from the main commercial and retail areas of Middletown, placement of the facility in that parcel of land would not generate income for the city, as military and civilian personnel would opt to travel to nearby Berlin or Cromwell for meals and other needs.
5. The use of the parcel by the army would mean a loss of tax revenue for the city of Middletown given its current Interstate Travel (IT) zoning designation.
6. The parcel is located in between two trap-rock ridges which would require extensive blasting. Such blasting could affect residential structures such as homes and wells over 2,000 feet away.
7. Water pressure may not be adequate to meet the water consumption needs of the new facility in addition to the needs of Westfield residents.
8. The parcel of land is surrounded by residential lots and a historic cemetery.

It is my understanding that the Army and the Common Council have agreed to meet with these residents to hear their concerns. This is most encouraging. If so, I urge you to give your utmost consideration to the issues and concerns raised by these

Letter to Mayor Sebastian N. Giuliano, City of Middletown

July 16, 2008

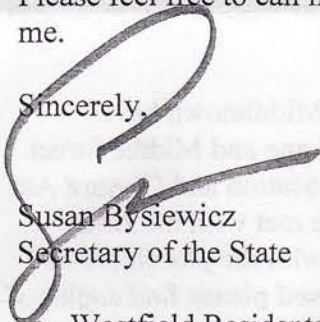
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residents. These residents would not oppose an army facility located in an under-utilized property within a more commercially-driven area that would draw greater economic benefits for the city and lesser traffic concerns and would be less disruptive of the environment and residential property.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Please feel free to call me at (860) 509-6200 if you wish to discuss this matter with me.

Sincerely,



Susan Bysiewicz
Secretary of the State

cc. Westfield Residents Association, Inc.; Mr. William Dougherty; Ms. Lori Troussaint; Ms. Cathy Branch Stebbins