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State of Connecticut

SENATE

Ninth District

Assistant Majority Whip

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Select Committee on Aging

Vice Chair

General Law Committee

Select Committee on Housing

Member

Regulations Review

July 18, 2008

Mayor Sebastian N. Giuliano
City of Middletown
City Hall
245 DeKoven Drive
Middletown, CT 06457

RE: Proposed Army Training Facility on Boardman Lane and Middle Street,
Middletown

Dear Mayor Giuliano:

We are writing in our capacity as the elected State officials for the neighborhood surrounding the above proposed military facility. We have been contacted by many of our constituents in the neighborhood and have investigated the issue in depth and we find the proposal to build the Army Training Facility on Boardman Lane in Middletown unacceptable and not in the best interest of the City of Middletown.

As you are aware, the Base Relocation and Closure Act of 2005 stated that a Training Facility should be built in Middletown "if the the Army is able to acquire land suitable for the construction of the facilities." This language of the Act clearly recognizes that the location for the facility must be reasonable and appropriate for such a facility. It is clear that the Boardman Lane Facility is not "suitable" for the construction of the facility for many reasons, including the following:

1. Transportation in and out of the proposed site is inadequate because of the size and width of the roads abutting the proposed site. In fact, the city currently prohibits trucks on Boardman Lane.
2. It is our understanding that the vast majority of the 88 acres of the parcel are wetlands and any construction of the facility would require massive amounts of site work to fill in wetlands and provide the requisite mitigation of said changes to the site.

3. It is our understanding that the construction of site would require extensive amounts of blasting of the trap rock which would negatively impact the neighboring structures and neighborhoods of Middletown. We note that there is a neighborhood and numerous homes within the close proximity to the proposed location.
4. Currently the water pressure to the neighborhood is inadequate and the construction of this facility would require a large upgrade of the water and sewer systems to achieve adequate water pressure and service for the new facility.
5. It is our understanding that the goal of the federal legislation sought to integrate the new proposed Army facility into the community to achieve interaction between the soldiers and the local community. The isolated location of the site fails to achieve the foregoing goal. Rather than being near the business community of Middletown which could benefit from the interaction and commerce of the soldiers, the soldiers will be no where near the Middletown business community and therefore no benefit would be received by Middletown business community.

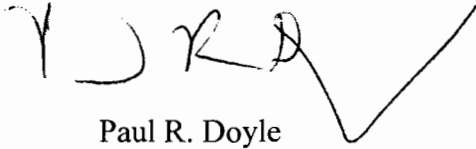
We recognize that the Boardman Lane site is currently zoned for industrial uses (Zone = "interstate trade") but this proposal provides no economical benefits to the City of Middletown. As you are doubt aware, the construction of a government facility would mean the removal of current industrial zoned property from the City's grand list and no tax revenue will be generated from this parcel for the city for the foreseeable future. We do not see any benefit to the City of Middletown except for additional drain on the City's resources, including its police and fire services.

It is our understanding that at the next City Council meeting on August 6, 2008, a resolution will be introduced that clearly states that the council is opposed the construction of the Army Training Facility at this Boardman Lane site. We understand and hope that the vote will be unanimous and bipartisan. We also believe and hope that with a united front of local, state, and federal governmental representatives in conjunction with the residents of Middletown we can effectively challenge this project and pressure the Army Corp of Engineers to reverse its decision to select this ill conceived and poor location for its Army Training Facility.

We look forward to working with you on this important issue to achieve our mutual goal of stopping the construction of this facility at this location.

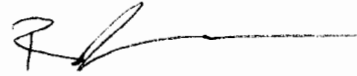
Please do not hesitate to contact us necessary as we work together to strive to prevent the construction of this facility at this Boardman Lane site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P R Doyle', with a large checkmark-like flourish at the end.

Paul R. Doyle
State Senator

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R C Kalinowski', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Raymond C. Kalinowski
State Representative

PRD:nl

cc: Westfield Residents Association, Inc.

Ms. Lori Troussaint

Ms. Cathy Branch Stebbins [via e-mail]

Ms. Jennifer Mahr [via e-mail]

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Frederick [via e-mail]