

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 33, Number 44

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, September 24, 1970

COUNCIL DISCUSSES ORDINANCES TO CONTROL LOCAL POLLUTION

by Al Skolnik

Pollution was a major topic at the Sept. 14 city council meeting, which was kept brief by primary election eve activities elsewhere. Mayor Pro Tem Edgar Smith presided as absent Mayor Francis White wound up his electioneering for county commissioner.

The discussion centered around a proposal for a city ordinance which would prohibit the sale of certain non-returnable or disposable beverage containers. The city of Bowie recently enacted such a measure to go into effect April 1.

City solicitor Emmett Nanna advised the council that the Bowie measure is expected to be challenged in court and that Bowie officials have some doubts as to its effectiveness. He thought that comprehensive State legislation was needed, rather than "slapdash" action by individual municipalities. City manager James K. Giese also had some reservations, based on the feeling that the pollution problem with respect to disposable food wrappings is much greater than the problem of beverage containers.

David Bridge, who had brought the measure to the city's attention, observed that while the problem of how to handle all food wrappings is immense, at least beverages represent one area where something could be done, since there is a substitute available for disposable containers — namely, non-disposable (returnable) containers. While this area may represent one drop in the bucket as far as pollution is concerned, he said, "if you don't take care of the drop, soon you have a bucket full."

Council expressed concern about the problem but decided to see how the Bowie experiment worked out before proceeding. Smith suggested that the city plan a State legislative anti-pollution program and seek Maryland Municipal League support.

Giese announced that he has completed work on three proposed anti-pollution ordinances, which are now being reviewed by the city solicitor. One relates to the dumping of pollutants into city storm drains, streams, and lakes; a second to littering in all forms; and a third relating to burning.

City Ordinances Passed

The council made permanent the erection of stop signs on Lastner Lane at the intersections of Ivy Lane and Julian Court. It approved reappropriation of certain 1969-70 budget items which were not undertaken or completed by the end of the fiscal year. These included codification of city ordinances (\$4,000), flashing school zone signs (\$4,000), final surfacing of fire dept. parking lot (\$3,000), and reconstruction of Laurel Hill, north of Ridge (\$6,000).

Introduced for first reading was a resolution accepting Lakecrest Drive and Prince James Way into the city road system. The builders, Charles Burton Builders, Inc., have performed the remedial work and final asphalt surfacing that were required by the city engineers.

Industrial Tract

Also introduced for first reading was an ordinance authorizing issuance of a tax anticipation note in order to temporarily finance the cost of construction of the four-cell box culvert on Cherrywood Lane. This road is to provide access to the Springhill Lake industrial tract.

In this connection, council recommended approval of the revised preliminary plan, which was being taken up by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, on September 16. The main revision is that the connection to Cherrywood Lane across Indian Creek culvert will now run through the industrial property parallel to the Beltway rather than bisecting the tract.

Giese saw no objectionable features in the revised plan, as all the roads are provided for as shown on the master plan. The developers are anxious to move ahead in order to secure a major national corporation as a major occupant of the property.

Other Action

Council moved that a resolution of recognition be drafted commending the Greenbelt Jaycees for their community work in repainting the playground equipment at Candy Cane City and for their campaign to clean up Greenbelt Lake and creek area.

Council approved Giese's negotiated purchase of workmen's compensation, liability, and automobile insurance at a premium rate of \$22,181. Only the present insurance carrier — General Accident Group was agreeable to submitting a bid, although other carriers had been invited. According to city rules, when only one bid is submitted, it is not opened and the council can authorize purchase on a negotiated basis.

Giese said that his inspection of the situation revealed that liability insurance carriers are reluctant to take on new liability risks in the State of Maryland because of unfavorable ratio of losses to premiums. Furthermore, recent events have made liability insurers very touchy about insuring municipalities. The coverage was renewed for substantially the same rates as those for the previous years, Giese said.

Council set a meeting for Tuesday, September 21, with the Boys Club and Girls Club.

Parkdale PTSA

The Parkdale High School Parent-Teacher-Student Association will hold its first regular meeting of the current school year on Tuesday, Sept. 29. The meeting, which will begin at 8 p.m. will take place in the Multi-Purpose Room.

On the agenda for the evening will be a discussion of the 70-71 budget, in addition to an open-forum discussion.

Officers for the 1970-71 school year include Margaret Becker, president; Michael Cavendar, first vice-president; Irving Harris, second vice-president; Larry Klipp, third vice-president; Ruth Fletcher, secretary; Marion Robshaw, treasurer; and Eloise Toll, historian.

"Concern" Classes In Drug Use and Sex

A course for adults combining drug and sex education is being offered for the second year as part of the Adult Education program in the Prince Georges County Public Schools.

Participants may also register on Monday, September 28, the first night of classes. The hours of the class will be from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. each Monday. At the six senior high schools where the course will be given. They are Bowie, Crossland, Fairmont Heights, Laurel, Northwestern, and Parkdale Senior High Schools.

WHAT GOES ON

Thurs., Sept. 24, 7:45 p.m. GHI Board Meeting, Hamilton Pl.

8 p.m. Greenbelt Republican Club meeting, Co-op Hospital-ity Room

Fri., Sept. 25, 8:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge, Co-op Hospital-ity Room

Sat., Sept. 26, 1-6 p.m. Special Voter Registration, Greenbelt Center Mall

Tues., Sept. 29, 8 p.m. Public Hearing on the location of the Senior High School in Greenbelt. Greenbelt Junior High School.

8 p.m. Parkdale PTSA Meeting

Greenbelters Prepare For School Site Hearings on Tuesday

Greenbelt officials and organizations, through a series of meetings this week, girded for the coming Tuesday public hearing on the location of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Senior High School. The hearing will start at 8 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the new wing of the Greenbelt Junior High School on Edmonston Road and Greenbelt Road.

Free bus transportation is being provided by Greenbelt Homes, Inc. for persons wishing to attend the hearing.

The Prince Georges Board of Education scheduled the public hearing last month after the county commissioners deleted construction funds from this year's budget for a senior high school on parcel 2 (the land between Ridge Road and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway). Greenbelt has been objecting to this site ever since it was first selected in March 1966 for a 3-school complex, mainly because of poor road accessibility.

Location

The parcel 2 site is essentially landlocked. Bordering the eastern edge is the Parkway, which is not accessible. To the north is the Beltsville Farm and to the south are the built-up Greenbelt Homes, Inc. courts. To the west are such narrow streets as Northway and Ridge Road, which were not designed to sustain heavy traffic.

The Greenbelt City Council has gone on record as preferring the parcel 15 site near the Capital Beltway over the parcel 2 site because of advantages in terms of traffic accessibility, pedestrian safety, and central location. The Council has also indicated that it would be receptive to any suitable site other than parcel 2 in Greenbelt.

Boys and Girls Club

Seventy-two boys have not returned Boys Club basketball uniforms, issued for the 1969-70 season. The best record is held by Al Dimusios' 10 and Under team, who have only seven uniforms not returned in out of a total of twenty-one.

Uniforms should be returned to the Recreation Department Monday through Friday, 9 am to 4:30 pm. No uniforms will be issued until these uniforms have been returned.

VOTER REGISTRATIONS

Special voter registrations have been scheduled at Greenbelt Center Mall on Saturday, September 26 and Saturday, October 3, from 1 - 6 p.m., and at the Community Building, Springhill Lake, on Friday, October 2, from 5 - 9 p.m. The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 3.

Members Question Regulation On Sheds, at GHI Meeting

by Bernice Kastner

It was standing room only at last Thursday's GHI Board meeting, as members showed up to express their concerns on enforcement of shed regulations, the proposed mutual ownership contract for free-standing homes and townhouses, and the parking problems of the 17-19 Ridge area. These issues stretched the meeting to 1:15 a.m. Most of the remaining items of the long agenda were held over to the following week.

Many members came because they had received letters from management requiring conformity to the shed regulations by September 30. Some of these felt that the regulations were not reasonable and needed revision; others voiced dismay at the changes they would be forced to make. Director Norman Weyel reviewed the history of the regulations. Other board members pointed out that there have always been exceptions, and that exceptions would still be granted. However, any such exception would terminate when the house changed hands.

Directors Darwin Beck and Alex Chavrid held that exceptions create problems and shouldn't be necessary. When Beck suggested further review of the regulations, Chairman Nat Shinderman pointed out that these had just been passed in 1970. He noted that this enforcement was the first step in a program to improve the appearance of the community, and predicted the appearance of a similar delegation when the yard regulations are enforced. He added that special membership meetings will be held to discuss these matters, the first one near the end of the year.

Director Steve Polaschik moved to grant exceptions for sheds which pre-dated the owner. This motion was tabled for later consideration.

Recreation Review

Fall-Winter Program

Fall-Winter program flyers are available at the Recreation Department, the City Office Building, and Twin Pines. Classes begin this Saturday, Sept. 26.

Roller Skating

Our roller skating program has swung into action. Children in grades 1, 2, 3, may attend on Tues. from 4-5:30; grades 4, 5, 6, will skate on Wednesday during the same time period. A fee will be charged even if the child brings his own skates.

Boys' B-B Gun

This popular class teaches proper handling, safety, and accuracy. This course is a must for the B-B enthusiast. Call now to find out more about this exciting program.

Basic Art

This course will be offered on Saturday mornings at the Spring Hill Lake Elementary School, and the Ridge Road Center. Call the Youth Center to find out more.

Womens' Gym

Womens' Gym will meet from 8:30 - 10 Tuesday evenings at St. Hugh's. This program is free.

Teen Girls' Gym

This popular activity meets on Tuesday evenings at St. Hugh's from 7 - 8:30 pm. Free.

KAVA

KAVA will present its first dance this Saturday, Sept. 26. The dance will feature a band and run from 8 to 11 pm; an admission will be charged. Coming on October 10 will be Bob Brady and the Concoards.

Let's Play Volleyball

This popular fun game is played in the Center School gym on Monday and Wednesday nights. The program is free, open to men only on Monday nights and everyone on Wednesdays. For more information call 474-6878.

Help - We Need Leaders

Brownie troops in this area are in need of leaders. Women with some spare time are needed to organize activities and help with Brownie projects. Unless leaders can be found the troop will have to disband.

We are also in need of a Junior and Cadet Leader.

Any interested person please call Kay Oertel, 474-8785 or Pat Gainor, 474-3649.

because of the absence of the manager. The board also voted to extend the compliance date to October 31. Those members who felt that their violation was minor, or justified, were told to apply for an exception. In fact, two exceptions already applied for were granted later in the evening.

Several members took the opportunity to bring up other maintenance problems such as insufficient hot water, defective valves, clogged gutters, and warped floors.

Townhouse Costs and Contract

Darwin Beck presented a report from the finance committee concerning the accounting practice and contract for the larger homes. A procedure separating their costs from the regular GHI budget is automatic, except for repairs and maintenance, and taxes and maintenance of common areas. The board accepted the finance committee's recommendation that a tentative charge be made for repairs and maintenance until enough data is accumulated to make an assessment based on actual experience. For taxes and maintenance of common areas, each of the 29 units would be charged 1/1608 of the total cost, 1608 being the total number of GHI units.

Most of the remainder of the evening was spent discussing the proposed contract for the larger homes with the corporation's lawyer, Albert Ginsberg. This will be presented for the consideration of involved members before final action is taken. Among the items giving rise to discussion were mortgage rate increases, the late payment penalty, and the resale policy.

The problem of the mortgage rate increase arises from the right of the mortgage holder to increase this rate with 30 days notice, and the necessity of passing this on to the owners, who have the right to obtain another lender if they so desire. The lawyer will review this to determine the appropriate time limit for GHI to grant the owner.

The discussion of the late payment penalty revolved around whether to have it fixed or determined by board regulation. The latter course was chosen.

Resale Policy

The resale policy was changed by deleting a paragraph in the original proposed contract which would have required GHI to exercise its option to purchase a unit under a formula involving the appraised price after the member has had 90 days to sell. It was felt that this would incur risk to the corporation in case the market price is lower than the appraised value. The board asked management to provide copies of all documented exchanges between GHI and members owning the free-standing homes and townhouses before final action is taken on this issue. After some further discussion of what portion of the townhouse tract was included in the common lands and what portion was part of the townhouse property (a discussion which left this reporter rather confused), it was moved and carried that the contract changes be made and the proposed contract be submitted to the individual owners for their comments. The townhouse committee will then schedule a meeting.

Parking Problems

After an airing of the parking problems in the 17 Ridge court area, a motion by director Katherine Keene for reconsideration of assigned parking in this court was defeated. The parking committee will consider placing a time limit on parking, and look into the possibility of removal of one inoperative car parked there. It was felt that in view of the 35 garages as well as the 11 spaces, this should be considered area parking.

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$5.00 per year. Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway (474-4131), open after 8:30 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

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A Crucial Hearing

September has been a crucial month for Greenbelt. Decisions based upon two public hearings will irrevocably determine the future of Greenbelt. The first public hearing on September 10 saw general citizen support expressed for the College Park-Greenbelt Master Plan with the major objection directed to the location of a 3-school complex on parcel 2 (land between Ridge Road and Baltimore-Washington Parkway). Every major Greenbelt organization and group that expressed an opinion on this item, as well as private citizens too many to count, made it plain to the county commissioners that parcel 2 is unacceptable for a senior high school.

The second hearing to be conducted by the Prince Georges County Board of Education this coming Tuesday, September 29, at 8 p.m. at the Greenbelt Junior High School is even more critical since it is the school board who will be making the determination on the school site.

A large representation from Greenbelt is absolutely imperative to make certain that there is no misunderstanding as to the feelings of Greenbelt on parcel 2 as a senior high school site. It would also be well to remind the new school board that its staff had earlier rejected the parcel 2 site. To quote the school board minutes of January 12, 1965: "Mr. Gwynn reported that the Staff Committee had met following the Board's direction and viewed the entire Greenbelt area for a senior high school site. After touring the area where Mr. Bresler said he would sell the Board a site, the committee . . . unanimously agreed that they could only recommend the one site and that is the tract northeast of the Capital Beltway and Charlestowne Village. The Town of Greenbelt recommends this site also. Mr. Nussbaum advised that condemnation proceedings had been instituted."

We are certain that a school board decision to seek a site other than parcel 2 will receive enthusiastic and prompt pledges of support from all elements in town.



TWO VIEWS OF NARROW RIDGE ROAD, WHICH WOULD BEAR THE BRUNT OF SCHOOL TRAFFIC. Above, Ridge Road near Plateau Place as it approaches Northway, the entrance to the proposed parcel 2 school site. Below is one of the blind spots on Ridge Road caused by a combination of parking court exits and on-street parking. Photos by Terry O'Driscoll

Space purchased by Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

Teens Still Marching

St. Hugh's Teen Club will continue their march for ALSAC on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 2 to 4 p.m. Members are requested to meet at St. Hugh's rectory before 1:45 p.m. for assignments.

ALSAC - Aid to Leukemia Stricken American Children, — benefits St. Jude's Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. Founded by Danny Thomas, this research hospital is constantly fighting many catastrophic children's diseases. All patients are treated free of charge.

SCHOOL NIGHT FOR SCOUTING

All boys and parents interested in scouting are invited to Center and North End Elementary schools on Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m.

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LIVE-IN: - Mature woman to care for woman invalid. Board plus salary. 474-6680.

WANTED: - Woman for general housework, Boxwood Village. 474-9368.

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YARD SALE, 1 Crescent Rd., Saturday, September 26. 10 til 2. Chairs, tables, air-conditioner, and other household goods including antiques such as blanket chests, spinning wheel, and wall telephone.

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Our very best wishes to Councilman Dick Pilski for a speedy recovery. Pilski is in Prince Georges Hospital, room K-31.

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"BYRON" or two of these homes and rent them for income. Look at this buy of the week on a 3 BR, sep. din. room, (large). In fact living room, dining room, and kitchen are all king-size. For \$2500 down you can pick up pmts. of \$133.67/mo. Owner will help with financing for small balance. \$17,000.

DON'T LOOK TO LONGFELLOW or "Hi 'll watha" another bargain go by just like this 2 BR END home near the center. Not only does it have a large fenced yard but also a remodeled kitchen. Pleasantly decorated and ready for you to move into. Pick up pmts. of \$85.25/mo. \$14,200.

TOTAL EMERSON to the depth you want to go, you'll get your baptism on this 3 BR 2 1/2 bath home with above ground swimming pool. Located near Greenbelt on a large shaded lot with covered patio and a covered driveway. On FHA/VA terms \$18,900.

TAKE A THOREAU look at other homes and compare with this fabulous 4 BR 2 1/2 bath Cent. A/C home with peaceful rec. room. Also you get a table space kitchen with an ice-maker set up for parties. Buy now and save on your choice of terms. Pick up pmts. of \$211.11/mo. after down pmt. \$35,500.

WALT WHITMAN'S sampler is made simpler and easier for you to get this 1 BR apt. for approx. \$65/mo. A fine handbox for only \$4500.

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SHELLEY Out your money, but not much for such a buy on a brick 4 BR 2 bath home near shopping and yet very secluded. With large rec. room, fireplace in lv. rm. as well as a Bar-B-Que and shed on a large level lot with lots of trees. Pick up pmts. of \$147/mo. after down pmt or buy on FHA/VA terms. \$26,500.

YOU'LL GET YOUR "KEATS" out of moving into this fine 4 BR 2 bath home with W/W carpeting, on a large lot backed up to parkland. Really hurry on this one if you want to take advantage of a low monthly pmt. of \$152/mo. after down pmt. \$24,900.

VICTOR HUGO (bring Lucretia too) and you will be convinced this is absolutely the finest 3 BR 2 bath C/A home with FP, 2 car garage, W/W carpeting, Washer, dryer and located on a large lot overlooking sheep in meadow. No "Les Miserables" here! This home is better than new. \$30,000 on FHA/VA terms.

GRIN AND BARRETT if you want to stay in your Greenbelt home forever, but if not, consider this 3 BR 2 bath rancher with C/A and garage. Pick up pmts. of \$218/mo. after down pmt. \$34,000.

HOW DOES EUGENE FIELD about this? Don't worry about him, consider now as the time to get a good brick 3 BR home with a potential 4th BR. Buy now and save on FHA/VA terms \$22,500.

DON'T "NASH" your teeth any more if you have wanted a 3 BR home in the country. For \$193/mo. after down pmt. you can move into this home with large rooms and located on about 3/4rds of an acre. \$25,000.

TENNYSON'S OR TEN DAUGHTERS would fit into this 7 1/2 BR 4 bath home. But, it is far better to rent out the apts and get a large income from the home. Call for details \$27,500.

PLEASE JOYCE, don't "Killmer" we try to "trees" in all ways even to the point you can put up your own shopping center apartment house complex on this property. Call for details. \$1,030,000.

Veterans Cut-Rate Liquors
11620 Baltimore Blvd. (Route 1) Beltsville, Md.
Free Delivery - 937-1110 937-3022

HALF GALLON SPECIALS

Wilson \$7.89 1/2 gallon	Guckenheimer Reserve 86 proof \$8.49 1/2 gallon	King James Scotch \$8.59 1/2 gallon
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COLD BEER \$2.99 a case

HELP AVOID A DISASTER!

Don't Wait For The Bulldozers to Come Rolling Down Our Streets Before Complaining

All Greenbelt residents are urged to attend the very important hearing on Tuesday, September 29 at 8 p.m. at the Greenbelt Junior High School to express their concern about the devastating effect the three - school complex on parcel 2 would have on our planned community.

CONSIDER THESE FACTS:

1. POOR ACCESSIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED SITE . . .

The traffic generated by these schools will have to travel through narrow curving residential streets (see map below).

At least 48 buses will make 4 trips daily to and from the schools.

At least 270 adult staff members will drive cars to school.

Up to 480 students will be driving daily to the senior high school.

We will have still more traffic from service vehicles, parents driving in foul weather, after-school activities, ball games at the stadium and performances in the auditorium.

On top of this, these same narrow curving streets would have to serve the large trucks for school construction.

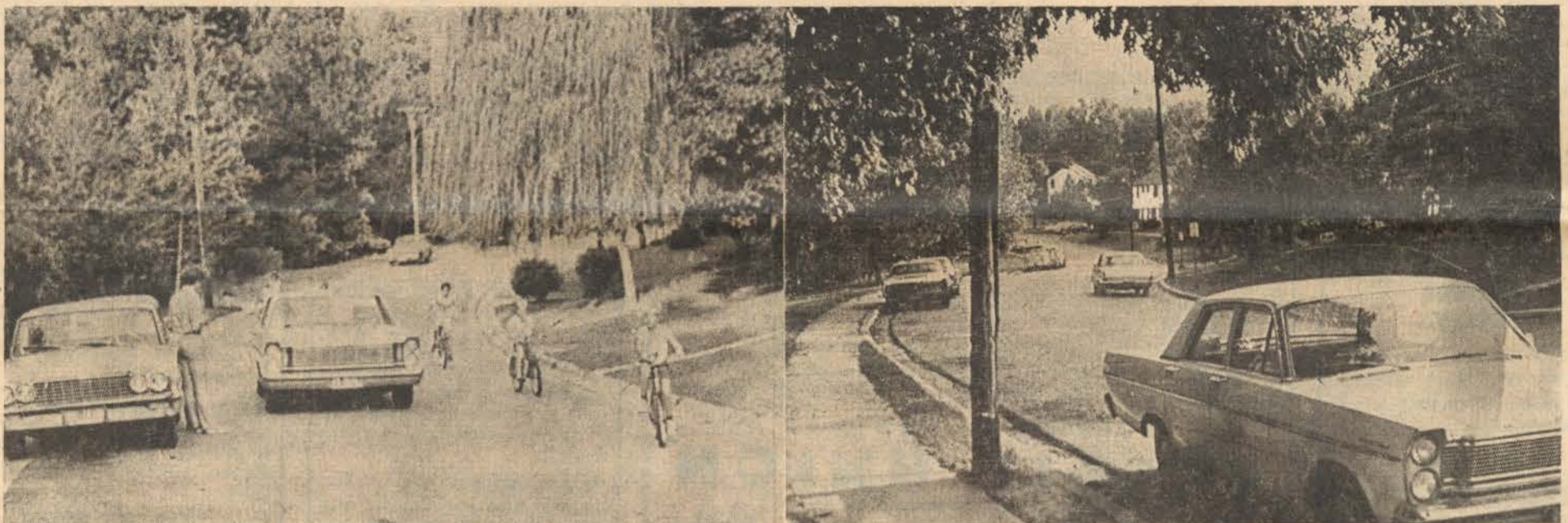
2. LACK OF SEWER FACILITIES . . .

The cost of sewer service to the proposed complex would be prohibitive and, in the long run, you — the taxpayer — would have to bear that cost.

3. UNDESIRABILITY OF A 3-SCHOOL COMPLEX . . .

Mixing younger junior-high and elementary pupils with older high school students may be a potential source of problems.

THERE ARE MORE SUITABLE SITES for the senior high school in the Greenbelt area which would provide the advantages of greater pedestrian safety, better traffic accessibility, and availability of sewer facilities at more economical cost.

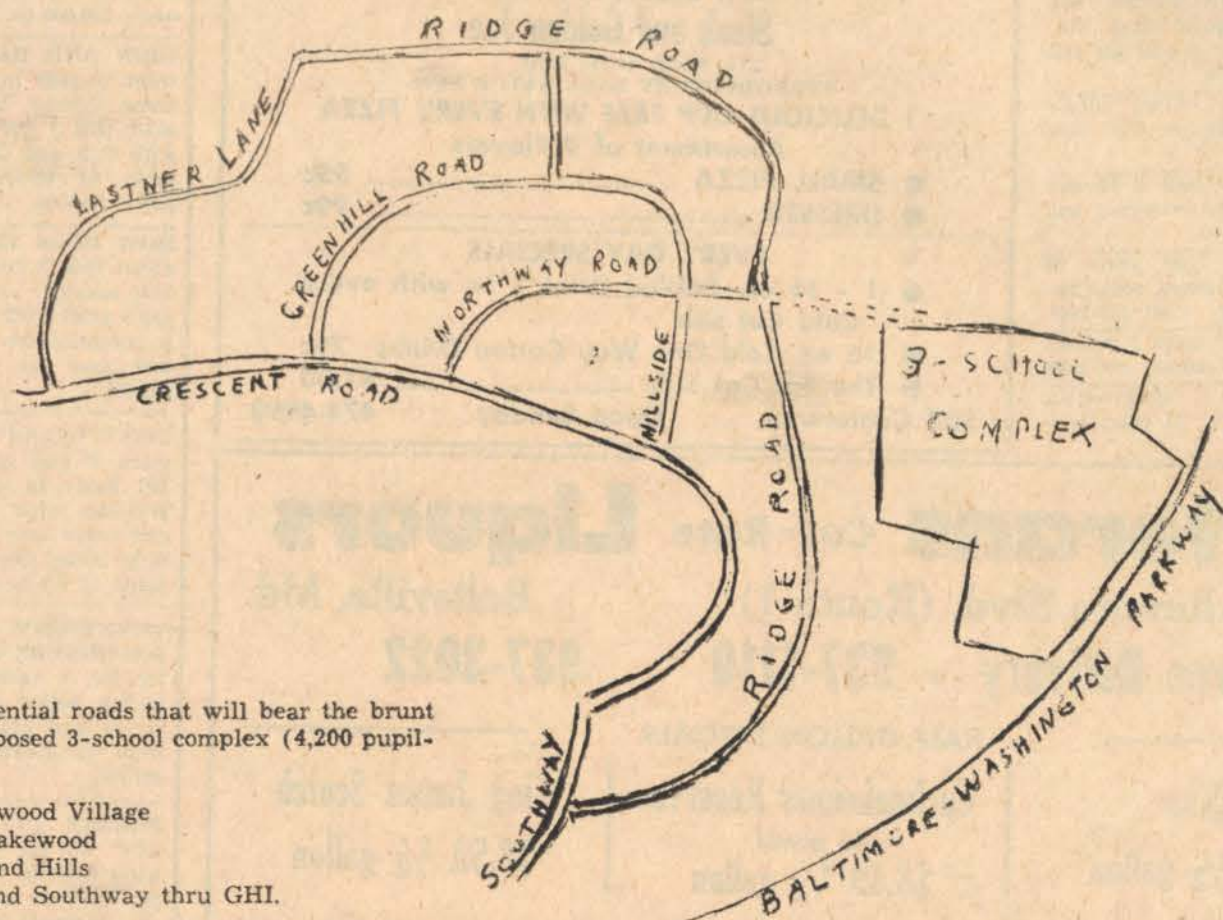


TYPICAL OF ROADS APPROACHING PROPOSED PARCEL 2 SCHOOL SITE. To the right is a view of Ridge Road looking toward Northway showing the curvature. To the left is a view of Northway looking toward Hillside and Ridge showing the lack of sidewalks and hazards to children. Photos by Terry O'Driscoll.

Impact of 3-school complex on Local Roads

FREE BUS RIDE TO HEARING

Free transportation to and from the hearing will be provided by a bus which will continuously circle a route from Crescent and Hillside, up Hillside to Research Road, along all of Ridge Road to Crescent and out to Kenilworth Ave., and the Greenbelt Junior High School. The bus will start at 7 p.m. and run as long as needed. Return trips will be operated on the same route as needed.



Shown here are the residential roads that will bear the brunt of traffic generated by the proposed 3-school complex (4,200 pupil-capacity). These include:

1. Lastner Lane thru Boxwood Village
2. Greenhill Road thru Lakewood
3. Northway thru Woodland Hills
4. Ridge Road, Hillside and Southway thru GHI.

Under the existing road network, all traffic would converge at Northway and Ridge Roads, the entrance to the school complex.