

Sydney Flynn  
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I am reaching out to our local government officials regarding the Planning Commission's hearing, scheduled for November 12th, in reference to case number 11-H-20-UR. This is for a proposal by JourneyPure seeking approval for a recovery housing facility at 7447 Andersonville Pike, Knoxville, TN 37938. I have attached the case information in the link below for your reference.

As you may be aware, in 2017 Angelic Ministries purchased the former Salem Baptist Church building with ideas to convert the location into a rehabilitation center or halfway house. That proposal was met with a great deal of controversy and animosity for the same reasons that community members, like myself, are now opposing the current measure to convert the former Tennova Healthcare Hospice building into a 44 bed recovery housing facility for outpatient substance abuse treatment. This building is located directly across the street, 0.3 miles, from Halls Elementary School, is 0.2 miles from the Elmcroft of Halls, and is 0.6 miles from Halls Middle School and Halls High School.

Halls Elementary School is a public elementary school that has a student body of 780 children between Pre-K and 5th grade.

Elmcroft of Halls is an assisted living facility that currently provides care for 50 residents, 17 of which are cared for in the Memory Unit for Alzheimer's and dementia. Halls Middle School and Halls High School are also public schools with approximately 1,054 and 1,275 students, respectively. Although my main concern is in regards to this particularly vulnerable population, I am also concerned about the property value of the homes in this area that will be affected by this proposal, should it pass. According to research, facilities such as drug treatment facilities cause a 3.4-4.6% decline in property values.

My family, like so many others, is no stranger to addiction and neither is our community. I do believe the services of a facility are much needed. My concerns are strictly related to the location of this proposed center as I do not believe these types of facilities should be in residential areas. This center is limited to individuals seeking treatment voluntarily and is not compelled by court order. This means the individual can leave treatment at any time, without completing the program. It also means there is the possibility of more drugs being brought into to our community by those coming to or visiting the facility. School zones are zero tolerance when it comes to drugs, yet a recovery housing facility is being proposed 0.3 miles from this community's elementary school. I do not believe this is in the best interest of our children or our community. I respectfully request that these concerns are considered and urge you to vote against this issue during the November 12th hearing. If you are copied on this

email because you are an elected community leader, I urge you to assist your  
constitutes in preventing this proposal