5-C-22-SP, 0 & 11316 Hardin Valley Rd.

This property requests a zoning change so that another housing development can be added to Hardin Valley. This is a poor idea, and should be denied.

Too many housing developments have been allowed along Hardin Valley to the point that vehicular traffic is a nightmare. Safety seems not to have been a consideration for vehicles entering onto Hardin Valley from the engineering and proximity of the entrances to the numerous subdivisions and the schools.

In addition, the local schools can no longer support the influx of more children. The elementary school already has modular classrooms outside because they do not have enough classroom space.

For the specific property being reviewed, the lower part of the property is effectively a marsh or wetland, with abundant wildlife and plant life. Is it destined to be filled in with dirt? Are the hillsides to be bulldozed like the failed development further down Hardin Valley? Is the best use of this property another venture for a developer?

Where is the long-term planning that considers the entire community and what it needs? What goes hand in hand with housing is a balance of parks, sidewalks, greenways, wildlife corridors, and undeveloped open space. When will developments stop being approved for Hardin Valley? When every field, wood lot, and open space is consumed by houses.

I have lived in the Knoxville area for 35 years, in Hardin Valley for 18 of those years. Over this time the growth of the valley has been dramatic, and lack of planning grossly apparent to anyone who lives and works in the area.