

January 4, 2024

We, Mike and Janice Ford, have lived on Ensley Drive, off Highland View Dr, in the Dry Hollow Community for over 30 years. We take pride in our home, yard, neighborhood, and community. We know and care for our neighbors. We are the true definition of "community." We do business in our community, attend church here, see medical professionals in the South Knoxville and Seymour area. We vote here and pay taxes here. We have seen children grow up on Ensley, marry and return to this area to raise their families in the same area. Generations have loved this area and still do.

Bower Field has brought joy, athletics, and friendships to this area for generations. Our son played, and now our grandson plays baseball at Bower Field. A couple of years ago, we were told that Bower Field would be safe for 30+ years. This community uses Bower Field and we want to keep it!!! We OPPOSE the rezoning proposal! The proposal of the area being turned into a Sports Complex is more destruction to our community. It is a busy park now, and the traffic around Bower Park is heavy now...again back to Chapman Highway and the additional traffic incurred is a great danger. Bower Park is in JEOPARDY! It seems obvious because of all the road construction behind Bower Park. We have asked what is going on, and have been given the answer that it is "road improvement." Why is the possibility of losing Bower Park such a secret? BECAUSE rumor has it that a \$30 million sports complex may be built there. The developer is asking the county government for 30 acres of the complex to be rezoned for commercial use. How many more used car lots and storage units do we need on Chapman Hwy in South Knoxville? We want Bower Park retained as it is!!!! We OPPOSE this rezoning!!

With the proposed developments already in play by TMD, there will be an ADDITIONAL estimated 7,000 vehicle trips per day on Chapman Hwy from the Sevier County line to and from Knoxville. Chapman Highway is a thoroughfare to the Great Smoky Mountains, and is already a busy highway for campers and RVs. The highway is dangerous now, and significantly increasing population will make travel more dangerous. The additional traffic of a larger Sports Complex will only add to the challenges of a dangerous highway.