

Syosset Central School District

P.O. Box 9029, Syosset, NY 11791 (516) 364-5605 Fax (516) 921-0087

Dr. Thomas L. Rogers

Superintendent of Schools

SENT VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

June 19, 2020

Supervisor Joseph S. Saladino
54 Audrey Avenue
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Dear Supervisor Saladino,

We have been following with interest your comments in the press and at the Town's recent meeting on June 16, 2020 regarding the potential development of the former Cerro Wire site as a warehouse facility for Amazon. According to a recent Newsday article dated June 11th, it was reported that you have seen the site plan for the multi-million-dollar warehouse but it hasn't yet been submitted to the Town. At the Town's June 16th meeting, you further stated that "the Town announced last week that Amazon is proposing plans for the former Cerro Wire site" ... and that "this project would be a great tax base, support to the school, the town, and County government without a burden on the school district and without the burden on more services that cost money." You further expressed that the Town will continue to work with the community, all of the stakeholders and everyone involved to work through this application process to bring about the best choices for our residents, township and for the community.

As I am sure you will recall, at the Town's May 1, 2018 public hearing on the proposed Syosset Park development, the Syosset School Board called for independent environmental testing in advance of any development of the site, which includes the Cerro Wire site. Given the history of this property and its close proximity to two elementary schools, it remains necessary to perform independent testing prior to considering any site plan or construction process in order to ensure that any potential risks from development are identified and that robust plans to mitigate them are developed and implemented.

The recent Newsday story indicates that Amazon intends to construct a 200,000 square foot warehouse facility with parking for more than 500 employees. This project has the potential to:

- be a major construction project that may disturb residual soil contaminants which may, in turn, migrate through dust or runoff;
- be an ongoing transportation-dependent enterprise that will have traffic and emissions implications for the surrounding areas;
- create a significant area of impermeable surface that will require major stormwater management to prevent off-site drainage;
- potentially disturb the Syosset Landfill site and/or impact the integrity of the landfill cap, which adjoins the Cerro Wire site and abuts the South Grove Elementary School.

The above concerns are not meant to be exhaustive and will require further review and analysis should the process of developing this site move forward in any manner. I note that additional concerns may become apparent and raised regarding the environmental and financial impacts to the District once documentation concerning the proposed project is made available. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is the District's position that these concerns require and demand proper study and adequate plans for mitigation as part of any development proposal.

On behalf of the District, I respectfully request that the Town take all necessary steps to ensure that the promised independent testing be undertaken and completed at the Cerro Wire and Syosset Landfill sites and that, consistent with the representations made, that the Town fully engage the community and interested parties regarding any proposed project at these sites early in the process, including the District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Rogers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Rogers".

For the Board of Education,
Dr. Tom Rogers, Superintendent

TR/rd