

Public Hearing Comments

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Are you a resident of the Town of Plainfield?	Yes
Street Address	512 Mark Lane
City	Plainfield
State	IN
Zip Code	46168
Public Hearing Topic	Family Promise Resource Center PUD
Public Hearing Date	11/21/2022
Questions or Comments for the Town of Plainfield	<p>My name is John Haley, and my wife Janet and I grew up in Plainfield and have lived here most of our lives and raised a family here. Once our kids were raised and out of our house we decided to move to a home that would be appropriate for the two of us to live out the rest of our remaining lives. This was seven years ago and we purchased a home near Hope United Church and have since put a lot of money and sweat equity into updating the home. We wanted to stay in Plainfield and wanted to find a home in a good location. One where the elderly felt safe to sit on their porches or walk their dogs, where kids played outside and parents felt safe to let their kids ride bikes through the neighborhood, or walk to school or the library unaccompanied by an adult, a neighborhood where people took pride in their homes. We found the perfect home in what we thought was the perfect neighborhood. Not once did we consider moving into a home near a church as a "risk" factor.</p> <p>Had we known at the time of purchase, that Hope Church would be turned into a homeless facility we would've had a different set of risk factors to consider. We know that Family Promise does help some individuals and families that need and</p>

want assistance. However, we believe a facility that offers an anonymous Narcan dispenser, shower facilities, and free laundry facilities will also attract the habitually homeless (due to severe mental illness and/or habitual drug abuse) and should not be located in a residential neighborhood. As you review the zoning change/variance request from Family Promise, please consider the following:

O. Does a nearby homeless facility that sometimes deals with mentally unstable people, ex-felons, and habitual drug abusers have a positive impact on whether elderly neighbors will feel comfortable and safe being outside their home? (sitting on their porch or walking the neighborhood)

O. Does a nearby homeless facility that sometimes deals with mentally unstable people, ex-felons, and habitual drug abusers have a positive impact on whether parents feel comfortable and safe allowing their kids to walk to the library, walk to school, wait alone at a bus stop, ride their bikes in the neighborhood, play on the playgrounds or in their own yards?

O. Does a nearby homeless facility that sometimes deals with mentally unstable people, ex-felons, and habitual drug abusers have a positive impact on crime in the surrounding neighborhood?

O. Does a nearby homeless facility that sometimes deals with mentally unstable people, ex-felons, and habitual drug abusers have a positive impact on how potential home buyers and realtors representing potential home buyers view the value/desirability of the neighborhood?

We don't believe there's a single positive that comes from adding a homeless facility to a residential neighborhood. However, there are many potential negatives. There are positives that Family Promise gives to their clients but those will be the same if the facility is located in a non-residential neighborhood and we believe that's where it belongs.

Hope United Church has been a wonderful neighbor. However, that legacy is in jeopardy. We suspect there are several other churches that would like to have an opportunity to purchase Hope United Church and it's our hope that's what happens.

When we voted for you for Town Council we were selecting you to represent the law abiding, tax paying citizens of Plainfield. We weren't selecting you to represent Hendricks County or Marion County or whatever other counties Family Promise clients hail from. We urge you to consider the negative impact a homeless facility located in our neighborhood will have on the neighborhood and on the residents of our neighborhood, the Plainfield citizens you were elected to represent. We urge you to deny any zoning change or variance that would allow Family Promise to purchase the Hope United church property.

We have many churches in Plainfield and if this zoning change/variance is allowed, then every neighborhood in Plainfield that is near a church is at risk of someday suffering a similar fate. I dread the day that purchasing a home near a church in Plainfield becomes a risk factor that potential buyers will have to consider.

Please put yourself in our shoes, would you want a facility that dispenses Narcan, deals with mentally unstable people, ex-felons, and habitual drug abusers (habitually homeless) next to your home, your neighbors, your children or grandchildren. It only takes one unfortunate incident to spoil a neighborhood. There is no upside for the neighborhood, only downside. Please vote NO for this zoning change/variance.

Thank you,
John & Janet Haley
