



May 17, 2016

Dear Mayor Volpe, Deputy Mayor Mutti and Trustees Kagan, Reim, Ferrara, Reinke and Cassidy:

As a resident of the Village of Pelham, I am deeply concerned about the recently-released plans to build a ping-pong plaza in Wolfs Lane Park. This marks a major departure from the previous plans for that greenspace, and I believe it is not the right fit for our community.

I strongly oppose the proposed table tennis pavilion, on the following grounds:

1- **It is impractical.** In order to use this facility, you need to bring your own ping-pong balls and paddles. It is unlikely that high school students are going to have ping-pong balls and paddles with them, and without them, this plaza is totally useless. So it actually discourages the kind of impromptu and communal use of public space the project is meant to achieve.

2- **It is a massive amount of concrete to place in a green space.** A concrete paved plaza, a pair of concrete tables, surrounded by concrete slab benches. The upkeep is difficult and moreover, it violates the aesthetic that we achieved with Woodland Park, which flowed into its surroundings in a natural way.

3- **There was a lack of communication about the table tennis pavilion, and a lack of process.** While the plans for the park have been in the making for over three years, the table tennis plaza—a major change—was inserted less than a month before the alleged end-date on a multiyear process and there is simply not enough time to consider such a major change this late in the process.

4- **There are better alternatives.** We should find something better—and something that doesn't require anyone to "bring" anything. This could include, among other things, fitness equipment, climbing structures or another type of game—like life-size chess or checkers—that is both popular, less obtrusive, lower maintenance and totally "turnkey".

In conclusion, I cannot support any plans for the park that include the table tennis pavilion. I urge the Board of Trustees to remove the table tennis pavilion from the proposed master plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd + Estee Cross



May 17, 2016

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Sincerely,

Kathleen & Jai Nanda  
271 Corona Ave.  
Pelham



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*Justina DeDonenico*  
*234 Monterey Ave*



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231 NYAC AVENUE, PELHAM, NY.



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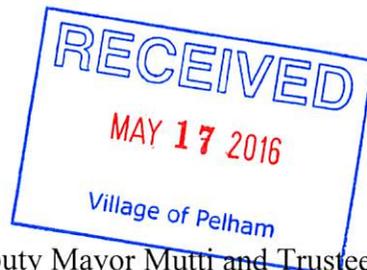
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Sincerely,

Matthew + Corinne Blum  
125 Monterey Ave



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Mary Hefner  
249 Monterey Ave



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Sincerely,

Theodore J. Johnson Jr.  
(222 Nyac Ave)



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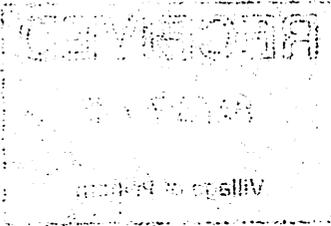
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Mr. & Mrs. Gregory J. Furber  
255 NYAC Ave  
Pelham NY 10803



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Second block of faint, illegible text, appearing to be the main body of the document.

Third block of faint, illegible text, continuing the main body of the document.

Fourth block of faint, illegible text, possibly a concluding paragraph or signature area.



Erin Blakeley Ginsburg <eringinsburg@gmail.com>

## Opposition to the Proposed Plans for Wolfs Lane Park

Rachel Cullen <rachelncullen@gmail.com>

Mon, May 16, 2016 at 9:17 PM

To: michael.volpe@pelhamgov.com, xaira.ferrara@pelhamgov.com, adam.kagan@pelhamgov.com, timothy.cassidy@pelhamgov.com, susan.mutti@pelhamgov.com, andrea.reinke@pelhamgov.com, christopher.reim@pelhamgov.com

Dear Mayor Volpe, Deputy Mayor Mutti and Trustees Kagan, Reim, Ferrara, Reinke and Cassidy:

As a resident of the Village of Pelham, I am incredibly concerned about the recently-released plans to build a ping-pong plaza in Wolfs Lane Park. This plan is vastly different from the original plan for the greenspace, and I do not believe that the ping-pong plaza is the appropriate fit for the Pelham community.

I will not be able to be at the meeting on May 17th because it is the Colonial band concert and I will be attending to hear my daughter perform, but I urge you to consider my opposition to the plan provided below, as well as from others in the community, and ensure that this plan gets the proper attention from the community.

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Sincerely,  
Rachel Cullen



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Lexi and Gerald Russo  
320 Pelhamdale Ave



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9 Boulevard, Pelham, NY

## Robert Yamuder

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**From:** Aimee Linn <aimee.linn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2016 4:21 PM  
**To:** michael.volpe@pelhamgov.com; xaira.ferrara@pelhamgov.com;  
adam.kagan@pelhamgov.com; susan.mutti@pelhamgov.com;  
andrea.reinke@pelhamgov.com  
**Cc:** robert.yamuder@pelhamgov.com  
**Subject:** Wolfs Lane Park Comments



Dear Mayor Volpe, Deputy Mayor Mutti and Trustees Kagan, Reim, Ferrara, Reinke and Cassidy: (note there is no active email address for Trustees Cassidy and Reim listed on the website so I am not able to send to them).

As a resident of the Village of Pelham, I am concerned about the recently-released plans for Wolfs Lane Park. I am not able to attend tonight's meeting as my eldest daughter has an orchestra concert at the same time (busy time of year for school kids). Primarily, I am concerned about the effect on neighbors as well as the cost to our community to maintain it properly in the future with increasing demands on the Village's budget, including pensions and healthcare obligations and upgrades to and maintenance of an aging infrastructure. How are we planning for upkeep? I know the DPW staff are busy. Let's really analyze what this will cost to keep up before we build it out too aggressively.

I think there are some positive elements to the park (native plants and seemingly more trees though it is hard to analyze that with the plans) but I feel that a few areas are a bit too heavy handed and I am of the opinion that the natural feel of the park and its unmanicured state is actually a plus. There are so few "wild" and natural places especially in Southern Westchester, I actually feel it is best left largely alone except to repoint steps, address the monument areas which deserve respect, and create a consistent walking path perhaps of a softer gravel etc to softly link the space. However, if we are to alter the space, I think the elements that are most obviously out of place are the ping pong tables and the scattering of picnic tables. I don't see that as a pretty or practical addition to the park.

Ping Pong will be loud for the neighbors with the grunts and hollers of the good shot or less than good shot. Ping Pong balls could be a damaging item to end up in our storm drains as well. I think there could be alternative games to consider that don't require equipment brought in. e.g. another play structure. I like the idea of the supernova. It is innovative and not a big obstruction when not in use. I was surprised to see the Ping Pong area added so late in the game to the plans as well as it seems a bit of a departure from the original look or even the softer feel of Bocce. It also seems quite close to the property line of those nearby. It seems like having something for teens is a good idea, but maybe ping pong is not the answer.

The picnic tables simply invites diners to leave their trash. Call me cynical but I see a lot of overflowing bins as it is and whose labor will unload the garbage bins? Also, I don't know precisely what material will be below the picnic tables but if it is concrete, then it is hot and unnatural and if it is grass, who will mow or weed whack all of those nooks and crannies and on whose dime? The way they are scattered just looks like a clutter pile to me. They are too numerous too. How will these look in five years and with what funds will they be replaced? The aesthetic that was introduced with Woodland Park is so natural and flowing and I would hope we could stick with that, not have a smattering of tables out in the open.

Before we rush to build it, let's make sure we can keep it looking great in the long term. I know that for example with Weihman Park in the Manor, a separate contractor is paid to maintain that lovely space. That is a lovely

park, but I don't feel that we have the funds to pay for a landscaper and the Manor's government was realistic when it told the Junior League it didn't have the time to devote to keeping the space as it should be kept.

Wouldn't it make more sense to do a softer upgrade of the park with less impervious surfaces and also put our Village's money to work on a parking structure or easier credit card payment machines for on street parking? I feel that creating a business friendly environment might be achieved by modernizing our parking meters ahead of this project sucking funds for upkeep. I realize there is grant money for the initial build but we all know that projects take a lot of time and money moving forward as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Aimee Kaplan  
205 Elderwood Ave

**Robert Yamuder**

**From:** Andrea Reinke <andrea.reinke@pelhamgov.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016 10:23 AM  
**To:** robert.yamuder@pelhamgov.com  
**Cc:** michael.volpe@pelhamgov.com; susan.mutti@pelhamgov.com;  
xaira.ferrara@pelhamgov.com; adam.kagan@pelhamgov.com; Chris Reim; Tim Cassidy  
**Subject:** Re: Wolf's Lane Park - 245 Nyac

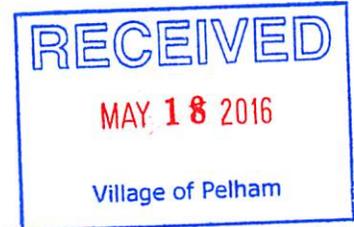


Hi Rob,

This email just arrived and I noticed that you, Chris, and Tim were not copied.

Did you (or someone else) pick up the pile of letters that Erin Ginsburg left for us? I don't think anyone had the chance to read them yet.

Thanks!  
Andrea



**ANDREA REINKE  
VILLAGE OF PELHAM TRUSTEE  
914-450-6704**

On May 18, 2016, at 10:10 AM, Lisa Schwert <[lms@shoparc.com](mailto:lms@shoparc.com)> wrote:

Dear Mayor Volpe, Deputy Mayor Mutti, and Board of Trustees,

Thank you for sharing the conceptual plans for the new Wolf's Lane Park at last night's Board Meeting. My husband and I are relatively new to Pelham so it was my first time getting to see the plan presented. I greatly appreciate your efforts to work with the community to design a wonderful public amenity for the Town. The plan as it is currently designed has many merits and one could see from Deputy Mayor Mutti's presentation that much thought and consideration has gone into the Park's planning. I also thank you for your perseverance and work to secure funding from DASNY to help pay for the improvements. My firm recently had a project receive funding from DASNY. We started the project in 2005, so I know how arduous that process can be!

As I touched on last night, through my firm's work on numerous master planning and mixed use projects I have had the opportunity to work with some of the world's best landscape architects and have been intimately involved in the design, development and programming of public open spaces in the five boroughs, around the US, and abroad. I also live at 245 Nyac, directly adjacent to the park, and am part of the neighborhood that will be most directly impacted by the Park's success or failure.

As I mentioned above, I believe the plan is successful in many ways. I also understand the timeline and admirable desire to get shovels in the ground ASAP. As you develop your final design package and bid documents I do think there is an opportunity to give more thought to the landscape approach, the materiality of the permanent elements, and how the park is programmed.

In my experience, developing a naturally beautiful, flexible landscape which requires limited maintenance and creates a meaningful buffer between public and private space, in concert with temporal programming and activation that can

change with the seasons and constituents' interests is the most successful and cost-effective strategy for this type of park. Permanent recreation structures can be quite expensive to install and maintain. If people don't use them they could also be expensive to remove, especially in the case of something like the ping pong pavilion which would require a significant amount of concrete. Likewise, minimizing hardscape and using pervious materials such as stabilized decomposed granite and permeable pavers are a more environmentally and user friendly alternative to concrete for paths and hardscape areas and are virtually maintenance free.

As you enter into this last stage of the design development I would welcome the opportunity to be involved in any way you deem appropriate. Given my professional experience and geographic relationship to the Park I hope I could offer some valuable perspective.

Thank you all very much for your time and tireless efforts on behalf of the Village of Pelham community. Please also share this with Trustees Cassidy & Reim as they're emails were not readily available on the Village's website.

Best regards,

Lisa

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