

Greetings.

I am Sandip Tiwari. My family and I moved here in 1999 attracted by the combination of Cornell University and the values that the community represented – a non-self-centered and humanist view of the local and global world that we inhabit and affect through our actions. We have resided on Upland Road since the arrival in 1999. This will end since it is becoming growingly clear that the extremism and lack of civilized conversation that has become more pervasive in this decade across the world – through wars and creative ways to polarization has arrived here.

This country is going through its worst financial crisis with nearly 10% unemployment. There are budget shortfalls all around – local, state, nation. And competitiveness and the nation's place in the world has changed dramatically over this decade. To think that Cayuga Heights elected officials can act as a protected gated community of the "Have's" immune to the world around, doing as they please because of a small vote majority in elections as "Masters" of the world, and eliminate inhabitants of this land, is not only barbaric but also self-defeating.

Mahatma Gandhi said "The more helpless a creature, the more entitled it is for protection by man from cruelty of man."

That we are not willing to consider solving the problem through individual use of fences is unethical, uncivilized, and representative of the style of governance that is becoming too pervasive - from Cayuga Heights to Washington. And all this act of killing will do is create long term sustainability problems for the community – Cayuga Heights, Ithaca, and the institutions and companies that have made this area their home.

We, Cayuga Heights, think we are rich and immune in this financially struggling country where many complain about the taxes.

We think that a good use of a million dollars is this proposition.

May I suggest that if you think you have this \$1M that you consider the following to make this community a more friendly and livable community and contribute in ways that a university town community should.

- a. Most of the service workers in Cayuga Heights live outside Cayuga Heights since we are unaffordable. Give the employees including policemen and firemen a break so that they can live here where they work.
- b. Fix the roads. Build more sidewalks so that people can walk. We are in Cayuga Heights Elementary School. Just go to the intersection of Upland and Parkway and see what is going on. A breakdown in drainage has been a constant at that intersection over the years, and you will see plenty of temporary solutions through history that have been practiced there. Today's is temporary asphaltting and large safety hazard openings in drain, accumulation of water at the intersection that ices up, and a plywood that has been sitting on one of the drains for the past innumerable number of months. There are plenty of such spots with potholes, etc., that you should be worrying about as governing body.
- c. Help improve education at the elementary school here. Bring a science lab to every grade and support arts and music so that our children grow up to their full potential.
- d. Make community programs that teach citizenship, community service, and other desirable humanist characteristics to the young.
- e. Provide better snow removal services.
- f. Control the increase in taxes by eliminating unnecessary costs such as this one.

Respectfully submitted on Dec. 6,

  
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