

March 7, 2016

Dear Chatham Officials:

Re: Public Hearing on the Proposed 16-1593 request by Diana Hauser and Alisa Woodruff dba Off Leash K9 Training for a conditional use permit on R-1 Residentially zoned property.

My name is Billy Gilbert and I own property at 979 Hortons Pond Road. Although I am not an "adjoining" owner, my property sits within 300 feet of the property line as I am directly between Glen Holt and Elaine who are adjoining property owners. I can easily see the property standing at my house.

As a residential community my family lives on the property and opposes a residential community turned business.

Training and boarding services are all client driven. 40 clients per week is the present customer base with their current income of \$500,000. With a projected income of \$1,000,000 the client base could grow to 80 plus by year 2. This will double the amount of traffic on Hortons Pond Road. With the additional services that they are talking about of retail and grooming we could see an even larger traffic volume. Hortons Pond Road is in need of repaving now which is not slated to be repaved for another 3 years. We do not need any additional traffic on the road. The increase in traffic could bring crime to our area that otherwise would not happen. Our road is a scenic road for cyclist, walkers and we have children playing in the yards. Our road is also used for an annual cyclist event and an annual memorial walk for one of our residents who lost their son to cancer.

Lighting will be another concern for our rural area. Right now I can walk out and see the stars at night and it is quiet and peaceful. The proposed facility will change all that. They plan to install two flood lights for their parking lot and will have lighted walking trails. This will change when they expand their business which they have plans to do already. Plans for expansion as well as evening and weekend events planned will require more lighting around the property. Spill over light is a concern for residents, particularly between the hours of 6pm to 6am. With their operating hours this will be 7 days per week. Due to the elevation of our house I can look out my kitchen window and see a large portion of the land proposed for this kennel. I will be able to see the building they are planning to build and would be able to see the lighted areas which would disturbed the darkness of rural life.

The proposed use is not essential nor desirable for the public convenience or welfare. It does not promote public health, safety and general welfare of the people. We respectfully ask that you consider the living conditions of the surrounding property owners and not allow a dog training facility on this property. A facility of this type would be better suited on a business highway such as US 64. **My final comment would be to you is (would you want this type of facility in your back yard).**