

From: Bmjebarker [mailto:bmjebarker@att.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 12:57 PM
To: Donna Jackson
Subject: Fwd: My last plea as a mother

I write this e-mail as a last plea for consideration of the NEA fairgrounds not to be located on the proposed site. I am a resident on CR 701, I have two children 5 & 12. I am here as a mother & home owner that only wants to protect her investments and family from a loss if the fair relocates into my neighborhood. Here are some of my fears and concerns with the relocation of the fairgrounds just 4 houses from my yard.

*The fair attracts many people from all walks of life and brings them really close to the place that I call home. All of these folks are not people I would want to get a close look at the front and back doors of my home. What kind of cars we drive, how many dogs I have, and how many children I have. I will constantly have a fear that the things that I own will be gone by the time I get home. Lord protect us if this thief decides to come in the middle of the night while we are home sleeping. This scares me!!

*Mr. Beasley, from Farm Bureau, in a conversation with my husband states that “yes, we use inmates to clean up the grounds but we have only lost a few over the years, most the time they come back.” A few – that’s unacceptable - how safe would that make you feel as this inmate will probably be roaming thru our backyards until he decides to go back.

*4th of July, will bring hundreds of people roaming our neighborhood and parking any where there is a free space to watch the fireworks. This event is open to the public and I have no idea who, what and where these people come from. Scary now a sexual predator has just parked in front of my home and notices my little girl and has decided to come back in hopes that he can see her again. Do you honestly think that I will feel save as we come and go from my home, as I am looking everywhere to see if there is a stranger lurking somewhere. Now how would you like to live in constant fear in your home that is supposed to be what you call your safe place.

*Fear of my children getting run over as they ride their bikes or take a walk down the street because the traffic will increase greatly.

I’m sorry but not one claim to increase the value of our property or an advantage to be in city limits has panned out. City limits offers no more, if not less, to their residents than I currently receive. Not to mention the price to “connect” No one has been able to give us a definite price. My parents sub-division was quoted upward of \$10,000 per household to get city utilities. That’s no advantage. The city is not offering you anything – they are charging you for the rest of your life while offering nothing new or better!

We have excellent, dependable garbage pickup that far outweighs the service my city limit friends receive. They are not taking off every time you turn around and leaving you piled high

with garbage to be picked up. I definitely don't think city would brag about mosquito control, we have lights, water and everything we need.

Highway 49 is overloaded now – the new hospital will bring even more traffic. The traffic coupled with the ever increasing current flow would be so dangerous for residents, travelers, emergencies vehicles and even those people going to the fair. How many would have to be killed or injured seriously before the fair board would be willing to admit that that location was a mistake. That the fairgrounds should have been located farther outside of town.....a place much more suitable.

We feel as if the very folks that are the leaders of our community have turned their backs on us and our needs. We are not trying to hold back on changes/opportunities or advancements; however, there are too many better suited areas for future potential growth that the fairgrounds needs not right in the middle of homes. I completely understand why a hand full of residents are backing this movement – I would also be backing it if you'll offer me the money your offering them for their property. Why should there be any regards to the needs of the folks that you don't want their property other than to deface and reduce the value. This is NORTHEAST Arkansas Fairgrounds – there are too many places in NORTHEAST Arkansas better suited – please consider that as you visit this property.

Please consider the long range use of this property – the fair will outgrow it in a few years and what has happened to the neighborhood that families are enjoying living in and raising their families.

Myca Barker
Sent from my iPhone