

Dist. 99 lacks concern

for development costs

The Community High School District 99 School Board has paid once again for advertising in the Reporter/Progress to state its one-sided view of the Woodridge land issue in the July 22 issue. Once again the board is using our money to tell us it is responsible, fair and committed to "working amicably with the village of Woodridge."

Unfortunately, we know better. Once again the board wastes our money to talk about "fiduciary responsibility," as if repeating this ridiculous idea often enough makes it true.

The board's ad condescends to define "fair market value" for us. Thank you board, but next time you consult your dictionaries, look up "hypocrisy."

The board states that it is meeting its fiduciary responsibility to the "entire District 99 community" and "all" of its constituents. The truth, however, is that the board's advertised sale of the property for "higher-density residential development" would not affect every member of the District 99 community equally.

It is ridiculous to pretend otherwise. The increased assets would benefit all, but the costs of a high-density residential development would mostly be borne by residents of Woodridge, especially those who live near the site.

The cost is a decrease in quality of life -- increased traffic and elementary school class sizes, and decreased greenery and public space, etc. The board's complete lack of concern regarding this cost is reprehensible.

At the last School Board meeting, we heard a proposal to assemble a team to address the district's capital improvement needs. My jaw dropped. Hasn't this been done already? Why is this land intended for public use advertised for sale for higher-density development if no need for the money has even been identified? The fiduciary irresponsibility continues.

Craig Kraus

Woodridge