

333 Schoolhouse Road
New Lebanon, NY 12125
September 29, 2025

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NEW LEBANON
PLANNING/ZONING CLERK

Planning Board
Town of New Lebanon
Town Hall
New Lebanon, NY 12125

Re: Proposed apartment building

Gentlefolk

When I first heard of the above-captioned project, I misunderstood it as a small senior-focused project. I scoffed: I couldn't believe senior citizens would leave their homes to live there. The Town Supervisor, however, told me she had "a waiting list." And I ceased paying attention.

To learn now that this has grown to a proposed 41-unit low-income apartment building boggles my brain. (No doubt it is the plethora of trailer parks that led the petulant-sounding architect to describe the town as "housing friendly," which sounded denigrating to me.)

Has it occurred to anyone that this town has NO public transportation? How will the tenants shop? Go to their physicians or pharmacies? The project would isolate seniors and low-income people over the grossly overpriced "grocery store"--said store having usurped the more locals-friendly weekly farmers' market--where a baked potato with bacon is \$8.85. Breakfast sausage? \$18 a pound. Not exactly what people on fixed incomes seek. How much more discordant could the project be?

Also to be considered are the children. The average family has 1.94 of them--let's call it two. Times 41. Aside from the fact that the school board--which clearly knows their needs--says that they can't handle all those offspring, where will they play? Where will they ride their bikes? In the parking lot? It's not like the town has activities available.

Too, I can foresee, in this ill-considered mess, needs that the community--and the DOT--have rejected: A crosswalk among them. A stoplight. Lowering the speed limit. And no doubt someone will propose staffing the "community center," yet another town employee to be funded.

You have a responsibility to see this proposal for what it is: a boondoggle.

Cordially,



Gail Heinsohn

cc: Zoning Board of Appeals