



November 28, 2001

Whitemarsh Board of Supervisors  
Whitemarsh Planning Commission  
616 Germantown Pike  
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

To the Members of the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Whitemarsh Township Residents Association, we wish to express our support of the revised plan for the Hill at Whitemarsh, the continuing care retirement community (CCRC) proposed for development on a portion of Erdenheim Farm and the current site of Eugenia Hospital.

Over the last few months, Whitemarsh Retirement Partners, LLP (WRP), and future residents of the Hill at Whitemarsh, known as the Founders, have made a good faith effort to address the community's initial concerns regarding the location, size and scope of the CCRC project. We believe that this new plan adequately responds to residents' concerns. And, to ensure that the completed project remains consistent with community expectations, the WRP and Founders have agreed to establish a Monitoring and Mediation Committee, with representatives from the community, to provide ongoing input and feedback during design and construction phase of the development.

Not only have the WRP and Founders addressed the community's particular concerns regarding the project, they have also demonstrated in several concrete and important ways their broader commitment to advancing the community's quality of life through open space preservation and smart growth, and their intent to play a leadership role in realizing these goals. To that end, they have:

- Secured an option to purchase 97 acres of Erdenheim Farm from its owner, F. Eugene Dixon, for preservation as open space.
- Agreed to continue to work to secure an option on additional tracts of Erdenheim Farm.
- Created the Whitemarsh Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to raise funds to acquire and protect the remaining acres of Erdenheim Farm and agreed to include community representation on the Foundation's board.
- Committed to making an initial contribution of funds to establish the Foundation and allocating a portion of the operating income from the Hill at Whitemarsh as an annual contribution to the Foundation.
- Endorsed the WTRA Development Principles, which establishes a set of expectations and standards for the Hill at Whitemarsh and future development projects in the township. These standards are intended to mitigate adverse impacts on township residents' quality of life through promotion of open space preservation and conservation-oriented growth.

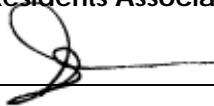
- Established a civic organization, the Whitemarsh/Wissahickon Association, to include broad representation from the community, whose mission is the preservation, conservation and stewardship of the Wissahickon - Whitemarsh Valley corridor.

Because of the revisions the WRP and Founders have made to the initial CCRC plan, the good will actions noted above, and the good faith shown by them throughout, the WTRA is now fully able to support the WRP's application and proposed zoning ordinance for a continuing care retirement community in Whitemarsh Township.

Sincerely,

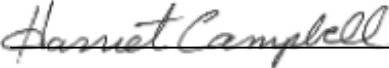
**Officers of the Whitemarsh Township Residents Association Board of Directors**

James McGann, Ph.D., President



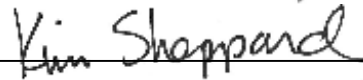
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Harriet Campbell, Vice President



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Kim Sheppard, Vice President



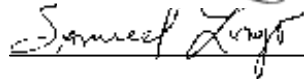
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Deidra Lyngard, Secretary



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Sam Longo, Treasurer



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