

TO: Paul Schwartz, Chairman, Town of Washington Planning Board  
Re: Ruge's Automotive, Site Plan Approval, 3 and 7 North Mabbettsville Road  
August 27, 2020

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent DeCarle  
17 North Mabbettsville Road

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We write to voice our strong objection to the above referenced project. Having lived on Eastern Long Island for our entire lives, we have long sought the peace and quiet of upstate New York for our retirement. We watched the North Fork of Long Island go from beautiful farmlands and quaint villages to becoming a highly commercialized center of tourism that ultimately led to unbearable traffic on a daily basis and a complete loss of the beautiful country aesthetic it once had. With that, we just permanently moved to the area in April of this year and we have so thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful wooded vistas, the spectacular sunsets, the unbelievably clear and star-filled skies, and the varied wildlife throughout the area.

While we understand the desire for the dealership to keep their car inventory on something more permanent than a grassy field, this is certainly not the place to do so, and will ruin our hopes for a tranquil retirement location. This project will have a tremendously negative affect on the safety, beauty and wildlife of the surrounding area. Further, the proposition of a newly installed and very large impermeable area will negatively impact the drainage and groundwater collection for the surrounding houses – ours included – and likely lead to ponding on State Route 44 regardless of what studies have been completed, thus creating an additional hazard at an already dangerous intersection. Environmentally speaking, we have great concern over what chemicals and oils from the new asphalt will leach into the ground water system that our neighborhood drinks from. Further, the unnecessary light pollution from the proposed parking lot lights will certainly negatively impact the night skies and likely become a permanent nighttime nuisance to the surrounding residents – us included.

This proposed project is aiming to commercialize a portion of the Town of Washington which, as we have learned in our short period of time here, does not need or want further commercialization. We implore you and our fellow community members to not allow this project to move forward. While unfortunate for the dealership, they must find another way or area to store their inventory which will not adversely impact the surrounding area.

Most Sincerely Yours,

Bette and Vincent DeCarle