Subject:

FW: Homer High School Track

From: Mike Barth [mailto:mike.barth.ujnb@statefarm.com]

Sent: Friday, October 21, 2011 10:05 PM

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Subject: Homer High School Track

Dear Borough and School Board Representatives,

I am thrilled that Borough Assembly representatives are hearing the concerns of the community and are willing to take actions that support progress. However, I am deeply concerned with the recent request from the School Board and I find it interesting that the school board is confused on how the borough maintenance priorities are determined. A special committee or group specifically tasked with determining the method utilized by the Borough in prioritizing capital improvement projects is a waste of time, energy, and resources. Why is it important for the School Board to have a deeper understanding of the Borough's method of prioritizing projects? The Borough's prioritizing method has little, if anything, to do with the School Boards ability to make restoring a neglected and condemned facility the top priority if funding is made available. I'm not sure how many other borough properties are totally condemned, but I would think that a widely used facility that is now condemned should be the top priority regardless of the process. I encourage the Borough Assembly members to join Mayor Dave Carey, Mako Haggerty, and Bill Smith in supporting an ordinance that will provide funding necessary to restore the Homer Track.

Furthermore, I would encourage the School Board to thoughtfully consider accepting funds from the Borough specifically to restore the track. I understand that other tracks in the Borough are also in need of repair or replacement. However, according to the current priorities listed by the School District, it has already been determined that the Homer High Track will be the top priority out of all Borough tracks. The Borough tracks are the 3- highest priority. Yet, the roofing project has received funding from Bonds and the window replacement project is not a project that presents an immediate need from a maintenance perspective or from a student access perspective. I respectfully disagree with the Boards statement that "We can all be proud of the way this Borough and School District have maintained our facilities in the past." If you were legally permitted to walk on the track today, I doubt that anyone would feel proud given the current condition of the track. I urge you to support a resolution that will restore the Homer track to the condition where students and members of the community can all be proud of our venues.

Thank You for taking the time to read this and thank you for working hard for our community and our schools!

Best Regards,

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