

All of the stated facts were published by Pyramid-Crossgates in the Environmental Impact Statement, available for you at the SONYA Library and the Guilderland Free Library on Western Avenue.

What is a Pyramid-Crossgates? NAME: Pyramid-Crossgates Company

AREA: 167 acres, plus 42 acres of access roads including a 19.32 acre site adjacent to Mercer-Warren Streets in McKownville and the State University at Albany property

usable TABLE SPACE: 1,293,160 square feet

EMPLOYMENT: 2505 fulltime (equivalent) jobs at 13,400 annual salary (plus fringes)

NUMBER OF STORES: 150 - with conference/office/research buildings to be added along with 2 additional department stores

PARKING LOT SPACE: 7090 cars

WATER SOURCE: Westmere Water District - 36,500,000 gallons yearly

SEWAGE DISCHARGE: 2,920,000 gallons yearly to Guilderland District

ACCESS ROADS: to be maintained by Albany County and State of New York

WETLANDS TO BE DESTROYED: 16-20 or more ACRES

LAND TO BE DEDICATED: 65 acres of pitch pine hills, near Point of Woods, to Albany County

WILDLIFE: whitetail deer, Karner blue butterfly, buckmoth, many others

AIR QUALITY: The state and federal standards are already violated for the 8 hour test for carbon monoxide at Johnson Road and the Information Center building. The CO levels will be increased 20-50%.

WATER QUALITY: Storm water discharge for Pyramid-Crossgates will be dumped into McKownville reservoir

NOISE: "operation noise ... will affect homes in the Mercer and Providence Streets neighborhoods..."

EXPECTED POPULATION GROWTH: 268 families
EXPECTED SCHOOL ENROLLMENT GROWTH: 122 children

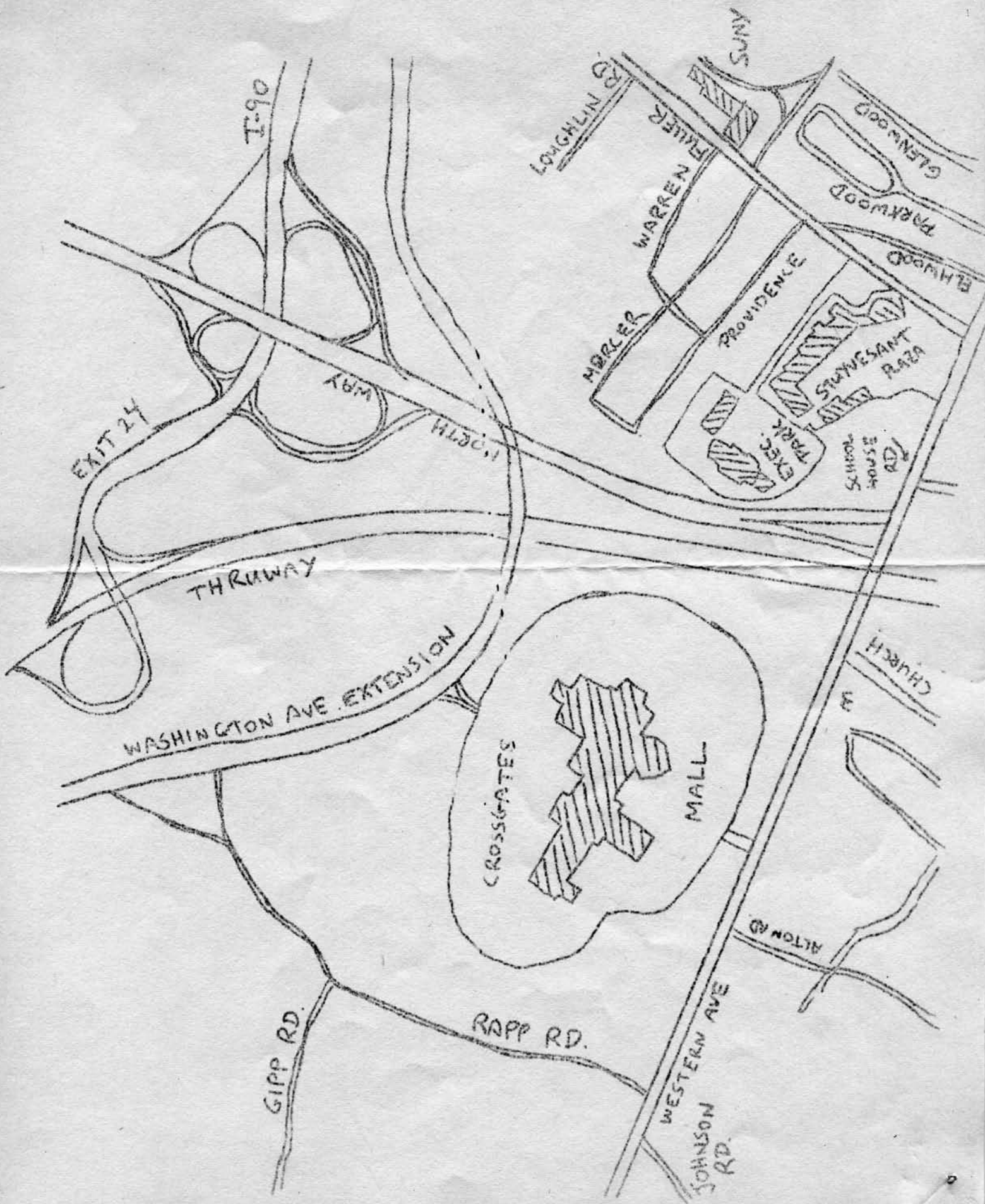
EXPECTED ENERGY USE: 41 MWH of electricity

EXPECTED IMPACT ON PRESENT SHOPPING CENTERS: 10% of Pyramid-Crossgates rentable space will be rented to tenants of the present shopping centers

TRAFFIC: increase at all 38 points tested, with Western Avenue traffic increased by nearly 40%

TAXES: property tax rates to be 50% of homeowners rates; Town property taxes to be reduced by about 5% for each home ONLY IF
a) Pyramid-Crossgates imposes no costs on the Town, b) businesses are not forced out of business, c) homeowners are not forced to move and d) Town officials reduce taxes instead of hiring more employees and e) property values do not go down.

Taken from: FIGURE 4
ANNOTATED AIR PHOTO OF PROJECT SITE WITH SUPERIMPOSED PROJECT SITE PLAN



Perhaps you would like to draft your own letter. However, for those of you who would like to use some of our ideas we have a sample letter here and each idea in the letter is indicated by the following symbol P. Use as many paragraphs as you feel comfortable writing.

DATE:

Dear Sir:

I am opposed to the proposed construction of the Crossgates Mall in Guilderland because it will seriously alter the quality of life in the Capital District.

- P In view of the number and quality of the existing shopping centers in this area, I feel that the construction of a 1.2 million square foot mall at this time in our economic and energy conservation era represents a gross over usage of our natural resources and our energy supplies, and that it would lead to the destruction of existing businesses, creating an environmental nightmare economically referred to as suburban cancer.
- P I am concerned about the negative effects this Pyramid-Crossgates development will have on our water supply which is already less than adequate in its purity. We are already getting our water from outside sources and the increased demand could have disastrous effects on the whole supply.
- P The Pyramid-Crossgates development will lead to the destruction of nearly 100 buildings, most of which are our homes. One of these homes, at 1 Lehner Drive, is the #1 Tollgate on the Great Western Turnpike, and is slated by Pyramid-Crossgates for destruction. I do not feel this should be allowed to happen to a historic building or to our homes.
- P The Pyramid-Crossgates development expects to use Federal funds to build access roads to its private property - access roads that will have no users except its customers. I, for one, do not wish to have my Federal funds used for one private business to put another business out of business.
- P The Pyramid-Crossgates development will lead to the bankruptcy of many small businesses, mini-shopping centers, and shopping malls. The Pyramid-Crossgates Mall will be able to use its expenditures from property taxes, a first year exemptions to \$367,767. for school taxes, \$83,817 for city taxes, and \$107,245. for town taxes, to underbid older rental property. The result could well be commercial slums, shopping centers without renters. These various slated concerns must not be allowed to become a reality.

I am asking your support as a public official, in the fight against the Pyramid Crossgates development in Guilderland. Do whatever you can in your public and private circles to prevent the proposed development. Voice your opposition openly so we can all see how you stand on this very important issue.

I would appreciate seeing a reply from you regarding this matter at your earliest convenience.

NAME:

Sincerely yours,

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

PHONE: (area code) #