

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**Township should look to Ottawa Hills for model**

The Sterns-Secor Road area, often referred to as the new Lambertville, has become a fast-growing commercial area in Bedford.

What once was a quiet pastoral neighborhood is now bustling with traffic, noise and pollution similar to Toledo's Trilby area. Minimal wage retail jobs, a little additional tax revenue and a more Toledo-like appearance is what Bedford gets in exchange for losses in residential serenity and property values.

Rezoning Whitman's Sterns-Lewis property to commercial will almost certainly bring similar results, making Bedford's atmosphere resemble Toledo's even more -- an atmosphere that many of us have moved here to escape. It's the quiet, less congested, pastoral nature of Bedford that makes people want to live here, giving its residential property a traditionally higher value than most.

Some people believe we should trade the serenity and beauty of Bedford for potential tax income from retail business. Having moved out here to get away from all that, I believe it's well worth losing a little tax revenue to Toledo in order to keep the noise,

**Letters welcome**

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congestion and crime there, rather than here. After all, controlling congestion and crime is expensive and dangerous.

The citizens of wealthy communities like Ottawa Hills use zoning to deter congestion and protect their serenity, maintaining the desirability and value of their property. If we don't do the same, Bedford will become just another Toledo suburb with little difference other than a sign at its border.

**David Warner**