

Remarks for Downers Grove Village Council Meeting
August 2, 2005

I would like to thank the Mayor and Council for this opportunity to speak briefly.

For the record, my name is John Schofield. I live at 1125 Jefferson Avenue in Downers Grove.

This evening I am speaking to compliment the Village on a very positive INNOVATION in subdivision planning. Specifically I want to compliment Planning Director Keith Sbiral.

Mr. Sbiral demonstrated wonderful INITIATIVE — and in my opinion great COURAGE — in organizing a community meeting last Thursday evening concerning the proposed “Nelson Meadow” subdivision.

This meeting was a full six-weeks before the anticipated formal Plan Commission hearing, and the objective was to identify issues for resolution before the formal hearing process – if possible.

A total of about 40 neighbors expressed their concerns candidly to three members of the developer’s team.

Mr. Sbiral invited the participants by letter. He moderated the discussion PROFESSIONALLY and even-handedly. By his actions, he demonstrated that the Village’s subdivision process can be OPEN and flexible.

I want to again thank the Village for this meeting, and to applaud Mr. Sbiral for organizing and conducting the subdivision process in such a PROFESSIONAL manner.