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To: [General Information](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Former Westwood View Elementary School - Request for Transparent Bidding Process
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 12:43:06 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

My wife and I are writing as proud Westwood residents who walk our neighborhood sidewalks daily and deeply love this community. We are providing input on the Fourth Amendment regarding the former Westwood View Elementary School site before your May 29th special meeting.

We want Westwood to thrive, but not at the cost of bringing in hastily made or rushed developers who prioritize profit over community benefit. The community already rejected the previous multipurpose building and parking garage proposal, demonstrating that residents expect better.

Our primary request is for a more open and transparent bidding process for any potential developers. We believe competition will yield the best economic and financial deal for our community. All residents deserve to see competing bids and proposals - this transparency should be a chief priority as we move forward.

Regarding our vision for the site, we would love to see something similar to Meadowbrook Park - a nice, expansive modern park surrounded by residential houses that support the tax base, with opportunities for small vendors like coffee carts, markets, or cafes. This type of development would enhance our community's character while providing economic benefits.

We strongly oppose multi-story parking garages and multi-use office buildings. Commercial real estate is in crisis, as evidenced by struggles like those at the Fairway shopping strip. We don't need empty office space that can't find tenants. If residential development is considered, we would rather see a house developer build homes - even if they don't perfectly match Westwood's current aesthetic - than face another large concrete building with an attached parking garage.

In our ideal scenario, we envision a new expansive park with thoughtfully integrated small vendor setups that would serve as a community gathering place while supporting local businesses.

Even if our vision seems unrealistic, we respectfully request that any process moving forward include **transparent and open bidding between all potential developers and suitors** - whether that's Johnson County Parks and Recreation, commercial developers, residential builders, or other entities. Our community deserves to see all options and make informed decisions about our neighborhood's future.

We support Option A - extending the purchase agreement - to allow time for this transparent process to unfold properly rather than rushing into another arrangement that may not serve Westwood well.

Thank you for your commitment to resident input and for considering our perspective.

Sincerely,

Wesley & Haley Clauson

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