

For Immediate Release

**Southwest Springfield Neighbors Association Lauds Resolution Against
Proposed Wal-Mart Supercenter**

May 27, 2004

The Southwest Springfield Neighbors Association (SWSNA), today thanked the Cobblestone Estates Homeowners Association for its stance against a Supercenter which Wal-Mart Stores proposes to locate at Wabash Avenue and Meadowbrook Roads in Springfield.

"We asked the Cobblestone Estates Homeowners Association if it would adopt resolutions against this Supercenter, which gravely threatens the quality of life in Cobblestone Estates Subdivision immediately adjacent to the proposed site. The Homeowners Association was happy to join in our grass-roots efforts to preserve the value of our homes and the quality of life on the far West Side" said Roger Kanerva of the SWSNA.

Kanerva added that SWSNA would be asking the homeowners associations of all the neighboring subdivisions to take a similar stance in meetings in the next couple of weeks. "We expect another half dozen subdivision associations to pass similar resolutions," he said.

"The neighborhood response against the proposed Supercenter has been phenomenal, even overwhelming," said Deb Woods, who manages the petition drive for the SWSNA. "We now have almost six hundred signatures on a petition against this development, with scores of volunteers helping in this effort." "All are opposed to shoehorning this Supercenter on this small site, and they won't be shy about sharing their views with their elected representatives," said Woods.

"This Wal-Mart can only be placed in this inappropriate site with the blessing of the City Council, said John Myers, legal counsel for the SWSNA. "We simply cannot imagine that the City Council would ignore the health and safety of the residents in this matter and waive its own ordinances for Wal-Mart's benefit" Myers said. There are other, better sites available for Wal-Mart, which spends over a billion dollars a month on land acquisition," he said.

Kanerva also noted that SWSNA has called an informational meeting for all interested residents for the KC Hall at 2200 South Meadowbrook Road, at 6:30 p.m. on June 1, 2004. "We expect an overflow crowd," he added.

For further information, contact Roger Kanerva at 787-3092.

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