

To the editor



Wolanin, Inc. should allow bus shelter to be built

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At the most recent McKownville Improvement Association neighborhood meeting, one topic was bus service. A suggestion was made that there should be a bus patron waiting shelter at the bus stop near Price Chopper and Johnston Road.

We were informed that Capital District Transportation Authority has tried to get a bus shelter erected there...but that the property owner—Wolanin Inc.—refuses to permit any part of the property be used by CDTA for this purpose.

This is outrageous.

Nearly every time I visit Price Chopper, I see bus patrons waiting for a bus there—in the rain,

in the snow—whatever. It is hard to imagine that any business would be so mean, self-destructive, and selfish. CDTA wants to erect a bus patron shelter at no expense to Wolanin Inc.—but it continues to say no.

It is hard to imagine that the Golub family (it owns Price Chopper and is well known for its community spirit) and the other businesses in the strip mall would tolerate this rotten behavior on the part of the company that owns the mall. Maybe Golub and the others do not know about it.

There are good neighbors and rotten ones, just as there are good business people and rotten ones. I suspect that many would

put Wolanin Inc. in the rotten group for its lack of cooperation and community spirit.

Maybe the next time you use one of the businesses in that mall, you could suggest that it is time to permit CDTA to erect a bus shelter for its customers. Or maybe you should just go to other stores to spend your money.

Don Reeb
McKownville

Editor's note: While Don Reeb is president of the McKownville Improvement Association, he stresses that he wrote this letter as an individual and not in that role.

See related story.

The Altamont Enterprise - Thursday, December 2, 2010

No go for bus stop shelter at plaza

By Anne Hayden

GUILDERLAND — A neighborhood leader is pushing for a bus shelter at the Town Shopping Plaza on Western Avenue, but such a shelter is unlikely any time soon.

At a recent meeting of the McKownville Improvement Association, a representative of the Capital District Transportation Authority responded to questions about a potential bus shelter by saying the property owner wouldn't permit it, according to Don Reeb, the association's president.

Wolanin Inc. owns the plaza property, which includes a Price Chopper. Reeb said the CDTA representative attending the meeting informed residents that Wolanin would not permit any part of its property to be used for a bus shelter; a bus stop, without

a shelter, already exists there.

Reeb was written a letter, as an individual, to the *Enterprise* editor this week, stating, "This is outrageous. Nearly every time I visit Price Chopper, I see bus patrons waiting for a bus there—in the rain, in the snow — what-

"We can't put a shelter on private property without approval, and we did not get permission."

ever. It is hard to imagine that any business would be so mean, self-destructive, and selfish."

Gregory Wolanin said only his brother, Vincent Wolanin, the founder of the company, could comment, and he was out of town and could not be reached.

Margo Janack, a spokesperson from the CDTA, said the transportation company did enter into a discussion about the possibility of a shelter at the plaza several years ago.

"We can't put a shelter on private property without approval, and we did not get permission," Janack told *The Enterprise*.

The Golub Corporation owns the Price Chopper in the Town Shopping Plaza, and representative Mona Golub said the location would benefit from a bus shelter, but that the corporation had not been made aware of any discussions about adding one.

"We have a very good relationship with CDTA and we are always trying to provide continued bus services to our locations, so we would like to see one at that plaza," said Golub.