The Gridville Garbash problem

Gridville is a perfect city. It is laid out as an $n \times n$ grid and each of $n^2$ families inhabits its own square. A developer offers to buy $k < n$ plots at a price of one billion Wazooli’s per plot. If a plot is bought, the family will move out and the plot will be used for growing Garbash, the most valuable commodity in Grid World. If at any time, a family plot has two Garbash plots adjacent to it$^1$ the smell of the Garbash will cause them to leave and the developer will buy up the plot for a mere million Wazooli’s and start growing Garbash. After, 10 years, the developer agrees to clean up and replace the plots by family homes, unless everybody has left.

The developer will not disclose where he plans to put his $k$ initial plots. Should the inhabitants of Gridville take the money, given that they want to get back to normal in 10 years?

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$^1$Plot $(x, y)$ is adjacent to plot $(x', y')$ iff $x = x'$ and $|y - y'| = 1$ or $y = y'$ and $|x - x'| = 1$. 