

My name is Evelyn Brewster, I am president of the 3150-16th Street Residents Association, Inc.

We are in strong opposition to the variance being requested.

The property is not unique in its size, shape, or other extraordinary or exceptional situation or condition.

DCPL states (p.9 ¶1) "Because the property fronts on two streets"...

This *really* is a misnomer.

16th Street is the 5-lane road that runs North and South between Georgia and Pennsylvania Avenues (in Silver Spring, MD and Washington, DC.)

It is more than 100 feet from the library's entrance.

The '16th street' that DCPL references is a short, ¼ moon-shaped, one-lane access road that provides 10-12 parking spaces for the Park Marconi residents so that they are afforded the same parking privileges as residents on the official thoroughfare. (See PM-1 and PM-2 attached).

Originally this access road was named "Green." But, because it sits just to the West of Marconi Park and could not be seen from the road residents complained that mail, emergency vehicles, and deliveries were unable to readily locate the building. A petition was made and granted for the name change to 16th Street.

Thus, the property fronts only on Lamont.

Regarding Adverse Impact. The expansion is a detriment to the public good. This area is extremely dense – nearly 1,000 residents in four buildings. In the past three years, we have experienced four fires, resulting in loss of life and property.

During the Deauville Fire 5-alarm fire, because of the already tight ground level space constrictions, firefighters had to enter our buildings...bring their hoses up our stairs...into our homes... and, out of our windows to fight the fires just a few feet away. The same is true for the neighboring buildings. Wind gusts took the flames 6 feet to the Church and it, too, was consumed. I was fortunate, only the

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paint on my interior walls melted and glass popped out of framed art.

The drawings in DCPL's brief are misleading. For example - the space between Park Marconi and the library is at some points, less than 17 feet - it was left off the drawing.

DCPL ignored the outcries of the community and the mounting evidence regarding greater access for fire and emergency assistance and began and continues to build this huge expansion amidst the decay of two burned out hulls- creating even more limited access to fire and emergency assistance.

Once completed, it's done.

Our children and our children's children may have to pay the cost of our actions today.

We have a responsibility now, not only to ourselves, but to future generations, to deny this variance and protect the public good.

DCPL's claims that the fire chiefs approved the building plan, but in a meeting requested by combined community groups, former Chiefs Rubin and Faust each stated that they prefer more space between buildings than not; and, that they would not want to risk falling debris on their firefighters and EMS personnel. The current fire chief took a tour of the ruins and the expansion. No plan exists after repeated attempts. And, DCPL continues to ignore and build-on.

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