

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Megan Thyngge <mthyngge@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 12:35 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: ben burdick
Subject: BZA Case 19377: The Boundary Companies and The Missionary Society (comments in opposition)

Comments in opposition

Name: Megan Thyngge
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I am writing to express my concerns with the proposed development plans, especially as it relates to accessibility to the schools and impacts to vehicular and pedestrian traffic. My 5-year old son attends Lee Montessori Public Charter School. My son is physically disabled and utilizes a wheelchair for access to Lee. One of the primary reasons we chose Lee as a school for him was its accessibility, including a large parking lot with multiple handicapped parking spots. The proposed development will reduce the parking lot size and it is unclear if handicapped spots will be included. It is likely that they will become unavailable to us, forcing us to park a significant distance away from the school (since all the neighboring streets are privately owned and don't allow for public parking) and walk our son into school. This solution is untenable for us, as the proposed development plans include no pedestrian walkways from 4th Street to the school that we can utilize for him. There will be one entrance/exit into the school that is intended for vehicular traffic and unsafe for us to utilize.

The proposed solution MUST include an allowance for each of the Charter Schools to retain handicapped parking spots.

Outside of our accessibility concerns, the proposed traffic pattern is again, untenable. Including no pedestrian options for school access is senseless. It will only increase vehicular traffic into and out of the schools, which is already problematic. Increased traffic along 4th Street NE will impact many adjacent traffic routes, causing traffic concerns throughout the Brookland/Edgewood neighborhoods. A new traffic study is necessary to address this increased traffic (see specific comments in Exhibit 76).

In short, as parents of a physically disabled child that attends school near the proposed development, we need assurances that our access to that school will not be adversely impacted by including safe pedestrian access and sufficient parking spots, including dedicated handicapped parking spots.

Sincerely,
Megan Thyngge