

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Susan McCusker <susan.mccusker@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:21 PM  
**To:** DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Subject:** Comments in opposition to BZA Case 19377: The Boundary Companies and The Missionary Society

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Susan B. McCusker. I am writing to you today with comments in opposition to BZA Case 19377: The Boundary Companies and The Missionary Society.

For your convenience, here is my contact information:

Susan B. McCusker  
501 Regent Place NE  
Washington, DC 20017

telephone: 973-214-4320

email: [susan.mccusker@gmail.com](mailto:susan.mccusker@gmail.com)

My husband, Leo X. McCusker, and I have lived in the Chancellors Row townhouse development since November of 2012. Our townhouse is one of the "stone houses" that faces directly onto the beautiful, wooded land where the Boundary Company plans to build the new townhouse development. Because of our proximity to this proposed development, we are understandably concerned by the adverse effects which we believe this building plan will bring to us personally. We are also, however, very concerned about the almost certainly negative effects on the community of Chancellors Row, to the many students housed in the old St. Paul's Monastery and to the larger community of residents of Ward 5.

Simply put, we bought our townhouse because of its location directly facing this undeveloped land and the magnificent trees that fill it. When we bought it, we were assured by representatives from EYA that the land could never be developed, due to a promise made by the Paulists to the Planning Board at the time they sold the land to EYA's developers. Had we known that this promise would not be kept, we would have moved elsewhere. We paid a premium for the location of our townhouse. To put it mildly, we feel betrayed.

This land is an oasis in a part of DC that has less green space and fewer mature trees than many of the more affluent sections of the City. Setting aside our own personal disappointment, we are extremely sad to see this diminishment of green space and loss of mature trees and to foresee the negative effects of this loss on the people of Brookland and the many children who attend Lee Montessori School and the Washington Leadership Academy. The benefits of such natural, undeveloped beauty to the residents of this area of the City are obvious; once the trees and grass are gone, they will be gone forever.

Although the diminishment of green space and loss of mature trees are my most pressing concern, I am also extremely concerned by a number of other issues. These include the increased traffic in the Chancellors Row neighborhood and on 4th Street NE, the increased density of houses and people in an area that is already too densely built up and the resulting lack of available parking in the area. Unfortunately, the Boundary Companies and the Missionary Society have proven extremely unwilling to work with or even communicate with concerned residents whose lives will be adversely affected by all of these issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan B. McCusker  
501 Regent Place NE  
Washington, DC 20017

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