

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** barb hijazi <bhijazi@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 22, 2021 12:44 PM  
**To:** ATD DCOZ; DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Subject:** Barbara Hijazi - River School Proposal - OPPOSITION

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Dear Chairman Hill and Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment,

I write to ask you to deny the River School request for zoning exceptions, Case #20472, and to oppose the purchase, relocation and significant expansion of the school to 4220 Nebraska Avenue, NW. I have been a resident of DC since 2005 and I currently live with my family at 4409 46th Street, NW. It is 4 blocks from my grandchildren, so they can bike and walk to see us!

The residential property that the River School is trying to purchase and redevelop is way too small for their proposed plans. The traffic and safety issues this will project will cause to the surrounding area are too extreme to approve any project with such a large number of people, cars and traffic. I've seen and experienced firsthand what Nebraska Ave is like during rush hour. The thought of adding hundreds and hundreds of cars to this part area makes no sense to me; adding school drop-off and pick-up will only add to the mayhem. You will be putting lives at risk if you approve this plan. This is why the ANC Commissioners voted to oppose the River School Plan (TRS) on October 14th given all of the long term traffic and safety impacts that the River School plan would have on the community.

When I walk my two dogs in the morning, I see a vibrant community of children walking to school, folks walking to work and other neighbors getting their morning exercise, like me, with their pets or on their own. I find it astounding how fast some commuters and families drive through the neighborhood, especially taking shortcuts on 42nd/Warren Streets to avoid the gridlock congestion. The near misses to pedestrians and bikers I have witnessed first hand on Van Ness and 42nd Streets, as an example, are devastating. There will literally be a mother on a bike with a child on the back, following the rules of the road, and cars will try and speed by them. Countless requests into DDOT have been ignored or have gone unanswered - why would any of these mitigation "suggestions" be any different? What benefit to the neighborhood is there by adding an 8<sup>th</sup> school, especially when the project is just too big and does not fit? When is enough enough and when will safety actually be taken seriously?

I strongly oppose the relocation of the River School and ask that you do the same. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Barbara Hijazi  
4409 46th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

Board of Zoning Adjustment  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO.20472  
EXHIBIT NO.95

