

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Sharon Lowe <slowedc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 3:58 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: Speck, Randy (SMD 3G03); Higgins, John (SMD 3G02)
Subject: BZA Application No. 20643: Maret School Athletic Fields Project

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I want to provide **comments in support** of Maret at ECC. My family has been in Ward 3 for nearly 30 years. I am also a former Maret parent. Both my boys went through High School at Maret, the youngest graduating this past year. Neither were big sports kids, but they played. Maret is a very small school that really really encourages participation in sports for what it teaches. It is part of the fabric of Maret that you at least try to play some sports and you do so within the confines of the limited playing space we have. It is part of being an urban school. We live in a city.

I just want to make a few key points:

1. When Maret says they will be a good neighbor, they mean it. From traffic flow, to parking, to use of facilities, the school leadership constantly reinforces the rules and demands parents abide by them. I have seen the Maret baseball team tossed off their own field at Jeleff because their time was up.
2. There is a massive dearth of playing fields in Ward 3. Every bit will help. As a Ward 3 parent I logged significant miles taking my kids elsewhere to play.
3. Let's not forget about ECC. Those in opposition seem to be forgetting the vital role ECC has played in the community.
4. What is the Plan B here? Leaving aside the nonsense that some folks believe that proximity gives them authority, it appears all they are focused on is "not Maret", not realizing that something will happen to that site. So this will continue...unless of course DC chooses to put housing there in which case they will have no vote at all.

Bottom line, Maret has bent over backwards to try to address the neighborhood concerns, ECC needs help, Ward 3 needs more fields.

Thank you for listening.

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Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.20643
EXHIBIT NO.186