

Hamala, Mark (DCOZ)

From: D [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 9:14 AM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: Speck, Randy (SMD 3G03); Higgins, John (SMD 3G02)
Subject: BZA Application No. 20643: Maret School Athletic Fields Project – Comments in Support

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Dear Chairman Hill,

My name is D [REDACTED] T [REDACTED]. As a mother and Maret alumna, I urge you to support Maret's proposed fields at the ECC. This field space is a valuable and much needed addition to the City.

The ECC is a testament to the best parts of DC and this partnership is critical to its ability to continue their operations and as a therapeutic school – a worthy and much-needed service for many families. The neighbors in opposition to Maret's plan must realize that the plan for open field space will have a much more limited impact on them than other development options. If not Maret, another entity will develop that property unlikely to have concern or care for community impact. Please don't prioritize the loud complaints of a few over the larger benefit to so many families.

Neighborhoods throughout the city are home to recreation facilities, schools, playgrounds, and parks. This is what makes our city so livable for families. I am grateful that Maret's plan includes provisions for use of the field by DC youth sports organizations, the ECC, local DCPS, and neighborhood use. This plan is not to make money – but to fill a need in the city to provide quality playing fields and open space. I urge the BZA to endorse this project and the provision to allow the field to be used by other entities. Too often facilities are built and then restricted to the public because of a few neighbors' desires.

Sincerely,

D [REDACTED] T [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]