Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Malaika Jones <malaika.ann.jones@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 6:59 PM

To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ); 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 Malaika Jones, and I am in full support of Maret's proposed fields at the Episcopal Center for Children.

As a second-generation Washingtonian and mother, the benefit this partnership offers many of our city's youth is very important to me.

The ECC has a wonderful mission to help vulnerable DC children here, within the city. The need to support at-risk children with emotional health issues has never been greater, and the Center simply cannot survive without a partnership like what it is seeking with Maret.

Maret's investment in new fields would provide for the ECC, its own students, and DC youth athletic organizations. Washington's children will benefit, not just those in the immediate neighborhood including our children in Ward 4 and far beyond.

As a parent in Ward 4, I urge you to approve this plan and build a new multi-purpose field and baseball diamond--a much-needed resource for our city. And let this project serve as a model for future partnerships between organizations genuinely interested in positive community impact and the greater good.

Sincerely, Malaika Jones 1627 Kennedy Place NW Washington DC 20011