

Marcello & Kathy Abbruzzetti
5939 Utah Ave NW
Washington DC 20015
23 February 2022

Chairman Hill
Board of Zoning Adjustment
Cc: ANC 3/4G

Regarding: Board of Zoning Adjustment Case #20643: Maret School

Dear Chairman Hill:

As a bordering neighbor of the Episcopal Center for Children (ECC), I'd like to restate our support of the school and their mission. When we first heard that Maret was going to lease the ECC field, we were happy to hear that ECC would re-open and the fields would be put to good use. As more information has come to light, we have become alarmed and disheartened at the size of the design and scope of usage for the fields. The proposed sports complex will: destroy 40 trees; replace a grass field with 3.7 acres of artificial turf; and pile earth necessitating 12-foot high retaining walls. In addition to the negative environmental impact, the proposed leasing of the field (8 to 10 hours 7 days a week) will create noise, parking and traffic issues that are contrary to the communal fabric surrounding ECC. When you combine this proposed complex with the proximity of St. Johns College High School situated .5 miles away, the probable impact of the noise, parking and traffic will be detrimental to those who live in a bucolic neighborhood, pay taxes, and support this city.

Our residential zoned community will be disrupted permanently by the scale of this project and the intensity of its use. We ask that you do not approve Maret's request for a zoning exception and help our community continue to seek a viable solution for ECC that is less invasive and more in keeping with a neighborhood currently zoned as residential.

Sincerely,

Marcello & Kathy Abbruzzetti
5939 Utah Ave NW
Washington DC 20015