

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Joanna Jacobsen <jacobsenj@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 1, 2024 10:16 AM
To: DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: Schellin, Sharon (DCOZ)
Subject: Zoning case 23-25 - Paving Paradise to put up a parking lot!

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Dear Commissioners:

Zoning case 23-25 was set down improperly; Chevy Chase residents deserve their rights to a contested case, so that we can present evidence and cross-examine witnesses, and so that we will have the right to appeal a zoning decision.

I am a mother of two kids ages 3 and 6. We don't have a large yard. We are not rich. Where are my kids going to play if you tear down their playground? You should be IMPROVING children's spaces not tearing them down! And with a broken slide and tiny outdoor space already, isn't sad enough that to us this is paradise? There is literally NO WHERE ELSE TO PLAY. Are you suggesting kids cross chevy chase circle to play there? I see accidents in that circle daily. A child is going to get killed.

We should NOT be giving private developers building rights on public lands, still used for public use. OF COURSE private developers ALWAYS put profit over people. How shady could this process have been to allow this??The community wants affordable housing but NOT at the expense of the limited outdoor public space we have for all of our children. The community does NOT want this!

I am EXTREMELY opposed to an RFP process that was flawed, proposing an outsized 80 foot building height and 60% lot coverage; ignoring and thus eliminating the ball court, **children's play area**, reading area outside the library and community center and all possible on-site parking. This community spent a lot of time creating these spaces and now you are going to take them away from the community???

These are important community resources that will be lost in the process, and their unique role in drawing together diverse users in age, gender and race in a unique way. At a time when we need to encourage reading in our youth these amenities soften what can become a sterile library experience for young readers. At a time of an aging population demographic we need to preserve and offer additional opportunities for social engagement and fitness.

You are giving away public land to be paved over. You are literally doing the song.

History has shown that once this public land has been turned over to private developers they will be charging high rents and then turn around and sell the development at a substantial profit. They are not including ANYWHERE for kids to play. Why can't they submit a design that preserves the outdoor spaces for any kids and families who move in?? Because they don't want to because it eats into their profit, those millionaires. They don't care, they go to the country club. Where will the residents play? Where will the kids in the affordable housing play?? They deserve green spaces, they deserve a safe place to walk to and play. They deserve their library garden ball court and play ground. This is right on Connecticut avenue and is the ONLY PLACE TO PLAY THAT IS SAFE!

Please help us,

Joanna Lloyd
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