

Dimitri G Demekas
4322 Davenport St NW
Washington, DC 20016

DC Zoning Commission
Washington DC

September 25, 2017

Re: Case 19599

Ahead of the Board of Zoning Adjustment meeting of October 25, 2017, I would like to register my opposition to the application of Georgetown Day School (GDS) for a special exception from zoning regulations.

If carried out, the proposal would fundamentally degrade the character of the neighborhood and affect adversely the quality of life of hundreds of families.

First, the expansion of the school would create a permanent traffic jam in this stretch of River Road, especially during rush hour—during which River Road is already jammed.

Second, aside from the impact on the daily commute of hundreds of residents (and others who use River Road), the traffic would inevitably spill over to residential streets, increasing noise and air pollution and the probability of accidents.

These problems could be alleviated if River Road were to be widened to four lanes, as it already is a few blocks further west, but no such plans are at hand. As it stands now, a two-lane road would be irremediably burdened by the proposed expansion.

Lastly, these objections refer to the impact of the proposed extension once that is completed. During construction, these problems would be even worse.

We respect the educational mission of GDS. But GDS has been an inconsiderate neighbor and is behaving like a bully, with complete disregard for the needs and sensitivities of the neighborhood that has been hosting the school for many years.

It is up to the Board to put an end to this proposed expansion or, at the very least, impose conditions that ensure that the impact on the daily lives of the neighbors will be minimal.

Sincerely,

Dimitri Demekas