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To: Mr. Frederick Hill
From: Jackie Roberts
Date: March 5, 2022
Re: **BZA Application No. 20643: Maret School Athletic Fields Project,**

I am writing with **comments in support** of the Maret School Athletic Fields Projects, BZA Application No. 20643 because I feel that the project benefits outweigh the community concerns, particularly when viewed in the context of likely other options. I understand that numerous other options include extensive development which would also place burdens on the community.

The unique aspects of the field project include a turf field. Having reviewed EPA data on turf fields over the past decade and following the evolution of the materials used for turf fields, I do not see a community risk from the turf field. As an environmental scientist, I agree that the infill material needs to be considered in detail. However, the range of options for infill material has expanded significantly in response to earlier concerns about runoff from crumb infill, made from used tires. The Maret project will benefit from numerous alternatives that now exist, including a wood-based product which Maret has selected. That product provides numerous environmental benefits, including retention of water and lowering surface temperatures. Furthermore, the detailed stormwater management design reviewed by the Dept of Energy & Environment will provide further water management, not just for the project but the neighborhood. We've seen the benefits in nearby Rock Creek Park of a world class stormwater management system (especially after a heavy rain) and would expect the same results for the Maret project.

Sincerely,



Jackie Roberts

B.S., Chemical Engineering; Masters in Environmental Studies; Yale University

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.20643
EXHIBIT NO.256