

Mr. Anthony Hood  
Chairman  
DC Zoning Commission  
441-4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

April 30, 2014

Subject: Opposition in Rezoning McMillan Park (Case 13-14)

Dear Chairman Hood:

I am writing to express my opposition to the Vision McMillan Partners (VMP) request for rezoning McMillan Sand Filtration Site and to express concern about the unacceptable negative impact on the Stronghold Community from this proposed development. Since the beginning of the Bloomingdale water project which includes tunneling to redirect water from Bloomingdale to McMillan, negative health and environmental issues have impacted our community.

- There have been at least four deaths in the 12 blocks of the Stronghold Community, directly across the street from McMillan, in the past 18 months from pancreatic cancer. Additionally, two possible cases have been diagnosed since fliers were distributed to all neighbors about the crisis. One patient was diagnosed in March and is now in home hospice since the beginning of April. According to experts—pancreatic cancer is VERY RARE and extraordinarily LETHAL. In a recent article in the City Paper regarding this epidemic, statistically, the Stronghold Community based on its number of residents, should experience one death from pancreatic cancer every 17 years.
- Water issues have evolved such as: murky water, discoloration, particles in the pipes, a leakage which is causing rapid settlement of a home and homes being impacted by dysfunctional settling.

As a member of the Stronghold Community, I am seeking the following from the Vision McMillan Partners to ensure the safety of and input from the residents of Stronghold before any development begins:

- An exemption of all houses shown on VMP'S submitted zoning map from the "200 feet" zoning rule which prevents us from being included as "interested parties" and an exclusion of any residence, such as the 129 homes in the gated community of Park Place, listed on the "200 feet list" that are not shown on the zoning map. This revision of status would give more weight to the wishes and concerns of those who are legitimately close to and affected by the construction and associated impact of the development.
- Extensive water, air quality, and soil testing prior to ground breaking
- A Health Impact Assessment
- An Environmental Impact Assessment Study
- A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study - According to the EPA, this study would at least consider the public health aspects of construction
- Continuous water testing for both bacteria and metals