

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

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April 30, 2014

Subject: Opposition in Rezoning McMillan Park

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

- Continuous third party involvement for compliance of safety and health measures promised throughout construction
- An extensive plan to deal with rodents which will be unearthed and a prevention plan to keep them from coming to and bringing diseases into the neighborhood

According to environmental experts we asked to review reports, although Vision McMillan Partners has recently published an "Existing Conditions Assessment and Feasibility Evaluation" and "Transportation Impact Study" on their website, neither addresses the water quality or health concerns recently raised.

As part of the Stronghold Community, I am requesting that zoning not be approved until the requested assessments and studies have been completed and a thorough investigation of a possible cancer cluster in the Stronghold Community has been conducted which identifies its cause or at least rules out the possibility that its cause is related to the McMillan Project.

Sincerely,

John H. Mullan, Jr.

Signature

JOHN H. MULLAN, JR

Name

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Address