

From: Amy Patton [REDACTED]
To: Howerton, Leslye; Newhouse, Rachel
cc: Carl Patton
Sent: Thu 10/9/2014 2:53 PM
Subject: Sacks neighborhood in Chevy Chase

I am writing to address a proposal that Montgomery County is considering as it relates to the Master Plan and the 60+ homes in the Sacks neighborhood of Chevy Chase (Leland St, Wellington and part of Bradley Blvd.). First, we heard that the county might change our designation to commercial space. Now we hear that the county may consider changing all or part of Sacks to park/open space. This is most troubling to those of us who have been long-time residents and have endured numerous challenges over the years by developers, opportunistic residents as well as nearby construction. Years ago we had a small but organized group that solicited developers in an attempt to sell the neighborhood as a whole. This did not come to fruition because the majority of owners did not want to move. We simply wanted and still want to live in our homes without threat from outside influences. We don't want our neighbors or our county to look upon us as obstacles to a monetary or land windfall. We have created lives based on this location, the schools, the community and proximity to our jobs. We are families and people—not just real estate.

I am aware that there is a small group in support of the latest county proposal....not all, but some of whom are the same people who pressed the developer agenda. Perhaps some are at the point in their lives where they no longer have school-aged children to consider, or they are nearing retirement or are rental owners. While that is understandable and I don't fault them for having an opposing opinion from mine, I also don't want them to speak for all of us. Their priorities differ from those of us who still have young families, community ties and local jobs to consider.

To know our neighborhood's history is to understand that many Sacks families are emotionally fatigued by the reoccurring threats to our home lives and as a result, many don't follow the neighborhood association. While relationships between neighbors were fractured by the developer debacle, over the years they've begun to mend. However, this scratches at that old wound and some residents may be sticking their heads in the sand hoping this will simply go away...or they are still unaware of or don't understand what is being considered by the county. As for myself and my husband, we are strongly opposed to any change in the Master Plan that threatens our home and our family. Please remember that this decision impacts lives...not just real estate.

Many thanks for taking our position into consideration!

Sincerely,
Amy & Carl Patton

[REDACTED]