

September 4, 2012

Brooke Farquhar, Supervisor, Parks & Trails Planning
Montgomery County Parks Department
Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPCC)
9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

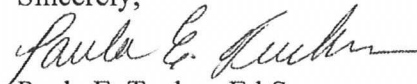
Dear Ms. Farquhar:

On behalf of the 8045 at Silver Spring Metro Condo Association, I support the development of a shared community park with green space on Newell Street (between Kennett St and Eastern Ave) in South Silver Spring. The strength of the community and quality of life for many local residents and employees, including homeowners and families with children will be greatly affected by what is developed there. We request that the interests of the existing residents be prioritized over real estate developers and the 8001 Newell Street parcel be rezoned as a park.

A community park on Newell Street between Kennett and Eastern would serve residents at 8045 Newell, Eastern Village Co-Housing, Mica, the Blairs, the Veridian, Argent, Spring Garden, the Silverton, the Bennington, 1200 East-West, Aurora, Gramax, and the Galaxy, as well as the many single family homes along Eastern Ave. It would also serve about 300 employees of nearby Discovery Communications (on Kennett St.) and the many businesses located around the Giant shopping center and East-West Highway.

This community park built within our neighborhood would build a vibrant local community among our area's residents and employees. A green park in this urban area would have important positive psychological benefits for residents. It will be a place for parents to play with their children, individuals to exercise, employees to have lunch, and friends and neighbors to meet and relax during the day and after work. The park will also increase the daily walkability of our neighborhood and be linked with historic Acorn Park. It will be an ideal location to hold local festivals such as our annual South Silver Spring Neighborhood Festival each September.

Sincerely,



Paula E. Tucker, Ed.S.

President, 8045 at Silver Spring Metro Condo Association

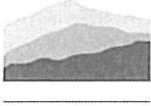
Cc: Isiah Legett, County Executive, Montgomery County

Hans Riemer, Councilmember at Large, Montgomery County Council

Valdis Lazdins, Planning Chief, M-NCPCC

Elza Hisel-McCoy, Planning Coordinator, Area 1, M-NCPCC

THE
TRUST
for
PUBLIC
LAND



Washington Office
660 Pennsylvania Ave. SE
Suite 401
Washington, DC
20003
T: (202) 543-7552
E: (202) 544-4723
www.tpl.org

August 23, 2012

Brooke Farquhar, Supervisor, Parks & Trails Planning
Montgomery County Parks Department
Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPCC)
9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20901

Dear Brooke:

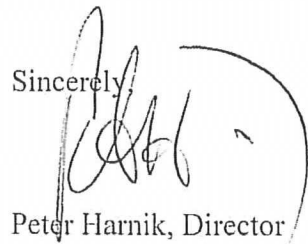
I've been contacted by south Silver Spring residents regarding the proposal to build a mixed use, multi-family residential development project at 8001 Newell Street.

The Trust for Public Land hasn't done a formal study of parkland in Silver Spring, but it does appear visually that that area is significantly short of parks and greenspace – not much more than Acorn Park. I'm sure MNCPPC has run the numbers – can you please share them with me?

If it's true that this area is particularly park-poor, we urge the County to consider whatever can be done to acquire more parkland before it is too late and too expensive.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Peter Harnik, Director
Center for City Park Excellence

Cc: Honorable Isiah Legett, County Executive, Montgomery County
The Honorable Hans Riemer, Councilmember at Large, MCC
Valdis Lazdins, Planning Chief, M-NCPCC
Elza Hisel-McCoy, Planning Coordinator, Area 1, M-NCPCC