

Chandra & Pramod Kumar  
17720 Auburn Village Drive  
Sandy Spring, Md 20860

Mr. Royce Hanson, Chairman  
Montgomery County Planning Board  
8787 Georgia Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: EZ Storage in Sandy Spring (Preliminary Plan No 120080410)

Dear Chairman Hanson:

As concerned residents of Auburn Village in Sandy Spring, we are writing to express how vehemently opposed we are to the proposed EZ storage facility in our community. We believe that this type of development would be an insult to Sandy Spring's Historical position as a pathway to freedom for enslaved African Americans via the Underground Railroad. Would we as Montgomery County residents be able to explain to our future generations that the Underground Railroad Trail ends with EZ Storage? Can you and your Board imagine how contradictory to the Master Plan this is? Imagine again, how this small and historical town will look like with the Sandy Spring Museum, Historic Friends Meeting House and EZ Storage.

It is also a slap in the face to the residents of Auburn Village. On one hand your office let Winchester Homes build our street curbs with asphalt based on the "Rural nature of Sandy Spring" and on the other hand your staff allows a monstrosity of a storage facility be built in our Historic Neighborhood, when we don't even have the need for this type of facility. Your staff states that it will sell packing materials. The U-Haul business on Route 108 already provides that service.

We do not believe that this development is compliant with the Sandy Spring master plan, based on the following language which provides that development in Sandy Spring should be consistent with the following goals:

The Master Plan states (page 81) For Commercial... Exclusion of new auto-oriented or typically large -scale uses that are inconsistent with traditional rural development patterns with flexibility to ensure the continuation of existing uses through grandfathering." As you are aware storage facilities cannot be filled without trucks and cars bringing stuff in. In addition, the size of this is about 20% of Sandy Spring commercial area. The storage brings no new jobs. They only require a maximum of two people to run them.

The storage facility will increase the burden on an already busy two lane road, greatly increasing the potential for auto and pedestrian accidents. This is particularly a concern due to the site's close proximity to Sherwood High school and Sherwood Elementary school.

These are just a few very important reasons why we urge the Planning Board to disapprove this plan. Please feel free to contact me at 240-476-9417

Sincerely,

Chandra & Pramod Kumar  
Attachment 1