

From: [Irene Marsh](#)
To: [Clerk of the Council](#)
Subject: Detailed Site Plan 22001 - McDonald's on Ager Road
Date: Monday, September 29, 2025 6:22:37 PM

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Dear Ms. Brown,

I respectfully urge the District Council to disapprove Detailed Site Plan 22001 (DSP-22001) - McDonald's Ager Road.

I find it hard to believe that the County would even consider approving a high-volume fast-food drive-through on property that's next to a complex, congested intersection that links some of the most dangerous roads in the county, that is near two elementary schools, and that is located in a community that the County already considers a "Food Swamp."

The roads along and adjacent to the proposed development, Ager, East-West Highway and Riggs Road, already have high rates of traffic accidents, accident-related injuries, and pedestrian fatalities. Adding a high-volume drive-through there will worsen that situation and imperil pedestrians and bicyclists the most. It also will increase traffic-related air pollution in an already overburdened community.

I am deeply concerned that no serious Health Impact Assessment has been done for a high-volume drive-through that would be built in a community that experiences conditions that characterize environmental justice communities, including: a very percentage of people of color and higher-than-average percentages of children under five years of age, residents who do not speak English, or who lack health insurance; heavy traffic and elevated levels of traffic-related air pollutants; and high temperatures due being in an intense urban heat island.

The County has passed measures to incentivize healthy food options, supported the creation of a county-wide Food Equity Council and has designated Healthy Food Priority Areas (HFPA). This property is in a HFPA. This new McDonald's would be in what Prince George's Healthcare Action Coalition (PGHAC), the Health Department, and Prince George's County Food Equity Council call a "Food Swamp." Studies and policies don't mean much if the County is willing to continue to approve fast-food restaurants in communities like this. This community and our county need food outlets that serve healthy food and pay their employees well enough that they needn't rely in such high numbers on Medicaid and food assistance.

Also, the Planning Board apparently believes it is not required or even allowed to consider off-site impacts or off-site conditions, including conditions that clearly affect traffic safety and public health. Failing to fully consider off-site conditions and off-site impacts will lead to a poorly informed decision and undermine the public interest. The Planning Board should have fully considered off-site impacts and context, and should require a serious Health Impact Assessment that examines the potential public health impacts in the community.

I understand this property was once part of the Green Hill Plantation, one of the largest plantations in the region. The enslavement of many Black men, women, and children on that plantation has been well-documented, and it seems likely that graves of those enslaved people

lie, or once did lie, on the project site and/or the adjacent seminary's grounds. I don't think McDonald's plans to include "posters" in the restaurant about this history reflects the seriousness of what occurred on this land.

Because McDonald's has not been required to secure approval of a Conceptual Site Plan or a Preliminary Plan of Subdivision, this DSP is the only opportunity for the Planning Board to gather all relevant evidence and make a fully informed decision that thoroughly considers this project's impacts on the community, the environment, public health and safety, and historic resources.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and for your service to the community. Please ensure that this letter is included in the public record for DSP 22001.

Sincerely,
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