

From: [Daniel Broder](#)
To: [Clerk of the Council](#)
Cc: sustainhyattsville@gmail.com; [Walker-Bey, James T.](#); [Adeyemo, Akinjide O.](#)
Subject: DSP 21001 – Magruder Pointe-Suffrage Point South
Date: Monday, March 4, 2024 7:12:22 AM

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Requested Actions: Deny Detailed Site Plan – DSP 21001

Dear Ms. Brown,

Please confirm receipt of this letter, and please ensure that it is included in the official record for

Detailed Site Plan 21001. I am a Person of Record in this case. I live near the project site, Driskell Park, Magruder Woods Park, and the Trumbule Trail Bog. I strongly oppose Werrlein’s plan to build 41 townhouses on the lower parcel, and for the following reasons and others, I respectfully urge the District Council to reverse the Planning Board and to deny Suffrage Point Detailed Site Plan 21001.

Werrlein still lacks the state-federal floodplain and wetland approval that it is required to have at the Detailed Site Plan stage. Most or all of the lower parcel lies in the 100-year floodplain of the Northwest Branch. Werrlein also lacks the required state-federal stormwater permit. The Planning Board ignored the fact that none of Werrlein’s stormwater and floodplain plans, or county approvals of those plans, account for climate change. FEMA’s floodplain maps are badly obsolete. Global warming is bringing more severe storms, and the lower parcel sits adjacent to Hyattsville’s most heavily used park, a forested wetland and stream valley, a tributary to the Northwest Branch, and families’ homes.

The Planning Board failed to give adequate weight to evidence documenting Werrlein’s deplorable record of environmental violations, as well the County’s general failure to enforce environmental laws. It is deeply disturbing that Werrlein apparently has operated on the site without required county, state and federal environmental permits, repeatedly flooded Gallatin Street with polluted stormwater, and discharged sediment pollution into the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River.

The townhouse density for this project radically exceeds the density allowed in this residential zone and any density in nearby neighborhoods in this zone. This project will provide little or no useful public open space, conflicting with the Gateway Arts District Sector Plan. Our schools already are badly over capacity, and Hyattsville Elementary School now must be rebuilt on the same small site, with little or no green space. Our local streets, including 40th Place, which is narrow, winding, and hilly, already are heavily burdened with cut-through traffic heading to and from Route 1.

The credibility of the planning process is at stake here and has been at stake throughout the Magruder Pointe-Suffrage Point proceedings. Again, I respectfully urge the District Council to deny DSP 21001. Thank you for taking time to consider my request and for your service to the community.

Sincerely,

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