

September 29, 2025

Donna J. Brown  
Clerk of the Prince George's County Council  
Wayne K. Curry Administration Building  
1301 McCormick Drive  
Largo, MD 20774



Re: Detailed Site Plan 22001 – McDonald's on Ager Road

Dear Ms. Brown,

I offer these written comments in response to Detailed Site Plan 22001, the proposed drive-through McDonald's on Ager Road.

As the record indicates, the McDonald's is proposed to occupy a stretch of East-West Highway that the Maryland Department of Transportation has identified as an urgent pedestrian safety priority. A complex, five-point intersection, the site is often congested and has a high volume of traffic accidents and injuries. The site is close to an elementary school, a busy bus line, Sligo Creek trail, and a bikeshare facility, and current conditions already endanger pedestrians and bikers. Adding a high-throughput drive through here will make these conditions worse and undermine the plans State Highway has to make this stretch of East-West safer.

I believe the Planning Board erred, when approving the site plan, by not considering the off-site impacts conditions and off-site conditions adjacent to the site, including those related to pedestrian safety. This McDonald's isn't proposed in a cow pasture in the middle of nowhere, but in a complex urban environment where the context is critical. Instead, the Planning Board considered this detailed site plan as if it were in a vacuum.

I further believe the Planning Board erred by not conducting an actual Health Impact Analysis of the proposal, instead accepting a pro-forma letter summarizing the applicant's plans to minimize dust and debris during construction. A Health Impact Analysis that fails to consider the impact of the site on either diet-related chronic disease, or the acute risk of injury or death following a motor vehicle collision, is no Health Impact Analysis at all.

The District Council has a simple choice before it: It can make this intersection a safer one, or it can make it more dangerous. I urge you to reject DSP-22001 and thank the Council for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Jeff Cronin  
7217 15th Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912