

January 8, 2024

Re: DSP 20002 Giac Son Buddhist Temple

Dear Office of the Clerk of the Council,

My name is Paula Price and I am the President of the South Laurel Civic Association. I live on Snowden Road in close proximity to the Giac Son Buddhist Temple. I along with my neighbors are in opposition to the expansion of this temple being built for many reasons some of which are listed below. I wish for this letter to be filed in accordance with the Oral Argument scheduled for January 16, 2024. The residents of Snowden Road live in an area zoned for Rural Residential. Over the past several years, the members of the Giac Son Buddhist Temple have constantly defied county laws and regulations, greatly diminishing the quality of life for the citizens, by broadcasting very loud noise for hours on end, illegally removing trees and stormwater control devices, thereby causing enormous damage from water run-off, also disposing of dangerous trash and runoff from illegal cooking on neighbors' properties, causing vermin and insects, appropriating neighbors' property to use as their own, illegally parking tour buses on a residential road preventing access by emergency vehicles, illegally over-expanding their existing building, and trespassing into the neighbor's property to takedown her trees and erect an enormous Buddha statue there. Over the years, large numbers of pleas by the residents to 3-1-1, the police, DPIE, etc. about all these issues have not worked in getting the temple to comply with county laws.

There are many more reasons that the temple's plans should not have been approved by the Planning Board initially and we respectfully request that no new temple plan should be approved by the District Council unless they can assure that its construction and subsequent use will fully comply with the county's laws and regulations.

Sincerely,

Paula Price