

From: Doris Bartel
To: [Clerk of the Council](#)
Subject: Request that the District Council Disapprove Detailed Site Plan 22001
Date: Monday, September 29, 2025 5:31:26 PM

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September 29, 2025

Donna J. Brown

Clerk of the County Council

Wayne K. Curry Administration Building

1301 McCormick Drive

Largo, MD 20774

Via electronic delivery

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

Request that the District Council Disapprove Detailed Site Plan 22001

Dear Ms. Brown,

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

I believe that adding 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, and that is near two elementary schools, will significantly increase pedestrian injuries and deaths, due to increased vehicles turning in and exiting at this already-dangerous intersection with poor pedestrian safety measures.

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 (including children) and bicyclists the most.

I am also deeply concerned that no serious Health Impact Assessment has been done to date. The surrounding neighborhoods experience heavy traffic, elevated levels of traffic-related air pollutants, and high temperatures, due to its location in an urban heat island. The proposed new high-volume fast food facility will only increase traffic-related air pollution in an already overburdened community. This area has a very high percentage of people of color and higher-than-average percentages of children under five years of age. It includes residents who do not speak English, or who lack health insurance.

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.

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,

Doris Bartel
Riverdale, MD