

City Council Public Hearing

May 18, 2019

Docket Item #12-- Development Special Use Permit #2018-0019

Construction of track and related facilities at Episcopal HS

Statement by D.E. Newland

My name is D.E. Newland and for 20 years I have owned (and resided at) the single family house located at 4009 West Braddock Road (Lot #21 in Marlboro Estates subdivision as marked on the proposal maps) directly north across the street from the proposed Episcopal HS construction site. My residence is one of four homes (lots 19, 20, 21, and 22) along the north side. I am strongly objecting to the plan. The EHS construction plan purports to "preserve the community character." It does nothing of the sort.

Thank you for allowing me to present my views to the City Council regarding the construction project. I apologize for the lack of more complete detail in this statement, but I was not aware of this project until very recently. Because I was out of the country at the time, I did not attend the May 7, 2019, Planning Commission hearing on the construction project and so have not stated my objections until today.

The project, as I understand it from available documents, will have a severe and detrimental impact on the character of my neighborhood. At present the EHS property on the south side of the street is, in effect, entirely wooded with many trees greater than 25 feet in height. I have attached a copy of a photograph of the present view from my property north across West Braddock Road.

EHS now plans to place a parking lot, which I am sure will be utilized by not only cars but large noisy buses and other vehicles, and next to that a 19-foot high storage shed of 2,000 sq. feet with an aluminium roof about 150 feet south of the street. According to the construction plan (as I understand it) EHS will be unbelievably only be required to plant a few 6-foot and 8-foot trees between the street, my home, and these unsightly structures and vehicles. This will change the character and ambience of the neighbourhood from one that is mainly arboreal and woody to practically the center of a busy, noisy, commercial area.

I am asking **at a minimum** that EHS be required to re-establish the wooded **evergreen buffer of at least 20 feet in height and sufficient depth to completely shield the view of the parking lot and 19-foot tall shed** on the construction site on the south side and the four homes on the north side of West Braddock Road. Thank you for considering my request to preserve the pleasant and lovely character of the neighbourhood.

