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To: <feedback@ssarpc.org>

Subject: E-Z Storage testimony

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Good Afternoon:

My name is Beth Garrettson and I live on Bentley Rd. which is directly across Rt 108 from the proposed site of the E-z storage building

I am not opposed to a business on that land. In fact I, many people in the community, were delighted with the Rental Store which was there until recently: its demise is a real loss to the community. However, that small building and what is now proposed are completely different.

There are many statements in the Sandy Spring/Ashton Overlay of the 1998 Master Plan which would preclude a building of the size and use of a storage facility. I will just reference a few.

Page Roman Numeral 12 describes the reason for the Sandy Spring/Ashton overlay. It states "This Plan strengthens the 1980 Plans' commitment to maintain and preserve the aesthetic qualities and rural character of Sandy Spring/Ashton. Sandy Spring/Ashton's special character has been shaped by the land, the buildings, and, most importantly, the community." It goes on to state the "This Plan recognizes that additional development will occur but recommends development patterns and design standards that will help continue Sandy Spring/Ashton's unique rural character."

Page 6 states: "Promote a healthy economy including a range of business, service and employment opportunities at appropriate locations." It then goes on to say "This Plan seeks to retain the 'Existing small scale business'... and recognizes that Sandy Spring/Ashton is not an appropriate location for any significant increases."

Page 8 states that it should provide for land use patterns that offer ample opportunities for social interaction and promote a strong sense of community. It says "this plan proposes that the Sandy Spring/Ashton Rural Village Overlay Zone that will encourage attractive village scale and character."

On page 9 - "Provide attractive rural entries along roads leading to Sandy Spring and Ashton village centers."

On page 23, under discussion of Lansdale Properties, the owners of the site of which we are speaking, it states "ensure continuation of commercial uses in the middle of the property. Rezone 2 parcels to limit uses to those consistent with the village center concept."

I do not believe that an E-Z storage building "maintains the aesthetic and unique rural qualities," "retains the existing small scale business", "encourages village scale and character" "provides attractive rural entries to the village centers", or "provides opportunities for social interaction and promote a strong sense of community."

I urge the Planning Board to deny the Preliminary Plan for E-Z storage at the proposed site. Thank you.