

From: Mark Stevenson <mwstevenson@gmail.com>
Subject: EZ Storage/Sandy Spring (Preliminary Plan No. 120080410)
To: mcp-chairman@mncppc-mc.org, joshua.sloan@mncppc-mc.org
Cc: sandyspringcivicassociation@yahoo.com
Date: Monday, January 5, 2009, 8:37 PM

Dear Mr. Hanson and Mr. Sloan,

My family and I live in Auburn Village – the community just behind and adjacent to the proposed location. When my wife and I chose to move to Sandy Spring, we were drawn by its quaint, small-town America appeal. The post office was adjacent to a small convenience store, there was a local-history museum on the main street, a small "mom & pop" hardware store and several (non-chain) restaurants within walking distance. Simply stated, building an EZ Storage facility on the main street next to our community would tear apart the veneer that the town of Sandy Spring has worked so diligently to construct.

Storage facilities such as the one which has been proposed are better suited to areas around industrial zone, since their appearance is that of warehouse space. Additionally, studies have shown that storage facilities tend to attract crime, rodents and insects. I have personally witnessed people illegally living out of the Public Storage facility on Frederick Rd (355) near the Shady Grove metro station as well as people operating businesses from within their storage units.

<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/VA-news/VA-Pilot/issues/1997/vp970907/09070090.htm>
http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/198832_publicstorage09.html
<http://www.bismarcktribune.com/articles/2006/05/13/news/local/114586.txt>
<http://video.aol.com/video-detail/burglars-target-storage-facilities/1196567943>

To quote from one of the referenced articles: "Storage facilities are known for dead bodies, stolen property, drugs"

As a resident of the adjoining community with an interest in maintaining the appearance and safety of their neighborhood, I strongly oppose the proposal to construct an EZ Storage facility on Rte. 108 in Sandy Spring. I sincerely hope you'll consider the points listed above as valid reasons for denying the proposal. There are many other businesses which could positively impact economy and appearance of Sandy Spring, but a storage facility on our main street across from a cultural landmark will detract from the beauty of this town.

I urge that you consider the opposition of the residents of the community when making your decision.

Regards,
Mark W. Stevenson
Resident
Auburn Village, Sandy Spring