

De La Vega, Maritza

From: Jhtcav@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2014 12:58 PM
To: Fiebe, Joanne K; Frank, Aaron M.
Subject: Fwd: Thank you, please share with the members of the TF and county staff

Aaron/Joanne
Please send this to the TF in an email.
Thanks,
JT

-----Original Message-----

From: Debbie Ratliff <debbie.ratliff@gmail.com>
To: Evans, Sandy (School Board Member) (School Board Member) <ssevans@fcps.edu>
Cc: Platenberg, Jeffrey <jkplatenberg@fcps.edu>; Sneed, Kevin <kmsneed@fcps.edu>; Fields, Melissa <mkfields@fcps.edu>; Mason BOS Email <mason@fairfaxcounty.gov>; John Thillmann <JHTcav@aol.com>; Kaye Kory <delkoryla@gmail.com>
Sent: Tue, Sep 2, 2014 12:43 pm
Subject: Re: Thank you, please share with the members of the TF and county staff

Hi Sandy,

Oh, I didn't see you this morning -- you should have come over to say hi. I'm looping the original recipients of my message back into this conversation.

I appreciate your follow up message and can clarify my intent. I realize that Jeff's office is working on the outside play space for the school and that the building has 3 fitness rooms and plans to install, according to the website, a golf simulation machine (which I imagine will be like playing golf on the Wii).

My note communicated John Thillman and Steve Tillman's surprise that the school was opening without a playground or outdoor green play area. They were very surprised to learn that the school didn't have a rooftop soccer field. We didn't discuss specifics of the fitness rooms and that they will not accommodate PE activities that students in the rest of the county enjoy -- the Bailey's Upper ES PE teachers as I understand it, will be modifying their curricula to accommodate the smaller spaces. They will also need to conduct some of the Presidential Fitness testing in the parking lot, because the fitness rooms are not big enough to properly conduct all of the national fitness tests.

I did hear that the Fire Marshall required a gate be installed in the property's perimeter fencing to allow the children to move a safe distance from the building, a distance that is not accommodated on the small parcel of the building's property. This is the area where I think an appropriately sized green space, with an easement, makes sense to be installed for future use.

John -- please share this note and Sandy's reply with the Task Force members and county staff, thank you!

Sincerely,
Debbie

Debbie Ratliff

On Tue, Sep 2, 2014 at 12:27 PM, Evans, Sandy (School Board Member) <ssevans@fcps.edu> wrote:

Hi, Debbie, Thanks for sharing your email to John. I actually saw you at Bailey's Upper today but wasn't close enough to say Hi—I was doing first day of school visits with Dr. Garza, and that's where she started out early this morning and then circled back later.

Just to reiterate, FCPS has pledged not to seek any cut-through of the cul de sacs as part of the Bailey's project, so your advocacy with the Task Force and the county on the same point is well-placed. FCPS Facilities staff is working on the outside play area design and, with the cooperation of the county, hope to get that in place in time for next school year. In the meantime, Bailey's Upper does have fitness rooms so kids will get physical activity during the day. On the fire safety issue, I know the Fire Marshall has been out there a number of times to review fire safety and evacuation plans. If you have any specific questions about this, please let me know.

Thanks for your continuing work and advocacy on the revitalization plan.

Best,
Sandy

From: Debbie Ratliff [mailto:debbie.ratliff@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2014 11:55 AM

To: John Thillmann

Cc: Evans, Sandy (School Board Member); Gross, Penelope A.; Kaye Kory

Subject: Thank you, please share with the members of the TF and county staff

Hi John,

Thanks again for meeting with us last week to discuss the revitalizations plans for Seven Corners.

I was thinking of you this morning when I was walking past the new Bailey's Upper elementary school on Leesburg Pike. I remember that you had stated at our meeting that the building has a five-story parking deck and a soccer field on the roof and hope you weren't offended when I laughed. Of course now you realize that the school has surface parking and there is no field, playground or gym at the school.

I'm glad I was able to correct your misunderstanding. I am also surprised that you weren't more informed about the configuration of the building site, given that it was originally part of the CBC and up for redevelopment along with the other buildings along Leesburg Pike.

And I do wonder, as we discussed, if the Task Force should stipulate that the western most part of the Leesburg Pike Village should be a green space, dedicated with an easement, for use by the Bailey's Upper ES children as park/green space as well as safe haven in the event of a fire or other emergency when the children and staff need to get away from the building. This would fulfill part of the "play" component of "live, work and play" in the revitalization of the Seven Corners CBC. And it would also give the elementary school children much needed green space as well as safe haven in the event of a fire.

We have always been concerned, as you know, that the cul de sac at Shadeland Drive will be used as a cut through, increasing our crime and traffic, pedestrian and vehicular (when families need parking for school events). **Each time we mention this concern to the TF and to FCPS, it seems to be noted. However, at our meeting last week, as we discussed, off topic, safety issues at the Bailey's Upper elementary school, you, John Tillman, and Aaron Frank all seemed to be surprised that we would not welcome and expect the use of our cul de sac as a cut-through to the school. This would change the character of our established community, as you have to admit -- and not changing the character of surrounding established communities is a cornerstone of the revitalization efforts.**

Let me reiterate, we do not want our street, the Shadeland Drive cul de sac, to be used as a cut-through, nor do we welcome its use as a parking lot during school events. We have discussed this along with preferences for Juniper Lane to be made into a cul de sac and not connected to the Leesburg Pike Village, as well as Buffalo Ride Road to not be connected as a throughway to the development.

Please share this message with the rest of the Task Force.

I look forward to seeing you again on September 9.

