

Esteemed Mayor and Councilmembers,

The Educational Facilities Task Force, having paid close attention to the on-going Hyattsville Middle School Build considerations advises the following points regarding items we would like to see the County address as the build goes forward.

- 1) One of the biggest concerns to neighbors of the property is storm water management. When the final storm water plan is released by the county, it is suggested that the City hire out an independent audit of the plan to make sure that it adequately addresses the hydrological realities of the terrain and the encroaching effects of climate change.
- 2) It is recommended that the current plan to put a chain link fence along the north side of the property on Oliver Street be upgraded to a masonry or soundproofed wall around the operational (east) side of that stretch to conceal dumpsters etc.
- 3) It is recommended that the current plan to put a chain link fence along the east side (43rd Ave) of the building be upgraded to appropriate privacy fencing with a consistent aesthetic and line.
- 4) It is recommended that a close look at the current bussing and drop off plan on Oglethorpe be given. The two egress points in close proximity look like a potential traffic hazard. We have yet to see a traffic study explaining exactly how the County envisions the flow of traffic at this critical junction. And how walking traffic will be facilitated at the Oglethorpe/42nd Ave junction.
- 5) It is recommended that the school be made solar and electric charging ready. There are bills being forwarded at the State level that would make such improvements mandatory. If they are passed before the build is done, we will need to include these items anyway. To avoid the expense of a retrofit, it is in the best interest of the City and County to make the necessary preparations now.
- 6) It is recommended that the City explore options to make the HMS a zero waste school. While the County currently has no plans to do this, the City may have options to work with the County make this happen. With a small local expenditure it may well be on the table.
- 7) It is recommended that a forum be dedicated to the option of an artificial turf vs. grass field. There are pro's and con's to each and various citizens have voiced strong support for both. The EFTF would be happy to help facilitate this discussion.
- 8) It is recommended that a forum be dedication to the \$10K exterior improvement money that will be granted to the community. Whether that be used for basketball courts, a greenhouse etc. The EFTF would be happy to help facilitate this discussion.

In general, we have been pleased with the County's efforts to engage the community on these and other issues as it relates to the nuts and bolts of the build. But also feel that the City should continue pushing for the above items and others that best exemplify the values of the community and best mitigate the disturbance to the surrounding neighborhood. Respectfully,

Educational Facilities Task Force