M-NCPPC

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760 301-495-4500, www.mncppc.org MCPB Item # 5 2/24/05

MEMORADUM

DATE:

February 18, 2005

TO:

Montgomery County Planning Board

FROM:

Charles Loehr, Director (

Montgomery County Dept of Park and Planning

SUBJECT:

Priority Funding Area Amendment

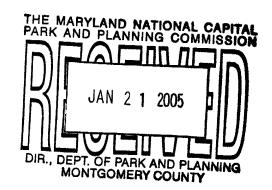
RECOMMENDATION:

Approval to Transmit to County Council

The attached letter from Steve Kaufman requests an amendment to the County Priority Funding Area boundary to include the proposed Good Counsel High School site in Olney. The letter suggests that the boundary change consider the adjacent existing Saint Andrew Kim Church and Andrew Kim Assisted Living Facility as well. A letter is also attached from the school's financial advisor indicating why they need priority funding area status. Finally, my 1998 staff report dealing with the original designation of priority funding areas is included for background.

Staff recommends that the Planning Board approve this request including the two existing facilities, and forward it to the County Council for its approval and transmittal to the State. Although institutional uses are not specifically addressed in the State's Priority Funding area categories (see 1998 memo or map), the Maryland Dept of Planning has indicated that expanding existing priority funding areas to include institutional uses served by public sewer and water is consistent with the program. In this case, all of the properties under consideration are in Category One for both water and sewer. The proposed area is adjacent to existing priority funding areas on both the north and west. In fact, the area to the north directly across Md. Rt. 108 is the Olney Theatre Complex, which is designated in the priority funding area employment category. Staff recommends the same designation for these properties.





January 21, 2005

Stephen Z. Kaufman 301.961.5156 skaufman@linowes-law.com

Via Hand Delivery

Mr. Charlie Loehr Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20902

Re:

Request for Priority Funding Boundary Amendment in the Olney Planning Area for Inclusion of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School Site

Dear Mr. Loehr:

As a follow up to our recent conversation, we are writing to formally request that the Planning Board and County Council consider amending the priority funding boundary in the Olney Planning Area to include Our Lady of Good Counsel High School ("Good Counsel") site located along Route 108 and west of Batchellors Forest Road. In considering this boundary change, we understand that the Planning Board and County Council will also take into account the Saint Andrew Kim Church and Victory Housing (or Andrew Kim Assisted Living Facilities) located directly across from the Good Counsel site. In addition, we understand there is a set of criteria promulgated by the State Department of Planning that must be satisfied. Among the criteria are sufficient intensity of uses and availability of sewer service. All the properties involved are institutional in nature and would constitute sufficient intensity of uses. Also, all the properties are served by public sewer.

In a conversation with Marlene Michaelson of the Council Staff, our understanding is subject to further confirmation that the Council will not require a public hearing for the proposed boundary change. However, Ms. Michaelson indicated there may be an issue with compliance with the State criteria. We will need your assistance in determining an appropriate State classification for the Good Counsel site. In light of the school's time constraint, we appreciate your assistance on proceeding forward with this request in an expeditious manner. At your earliest convenience, we would like to meet with you and representatives of Good Counsel and their financial advisor to discuss how we can best proceed forward in this endeavor.



Mr. Charlie Loehr January 21, 2005 Page 2

Thank you in advance for your assistance and guidance on this request. Please give me a call and let me know of your availability as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

LINOWES AND BLOCHER LLP

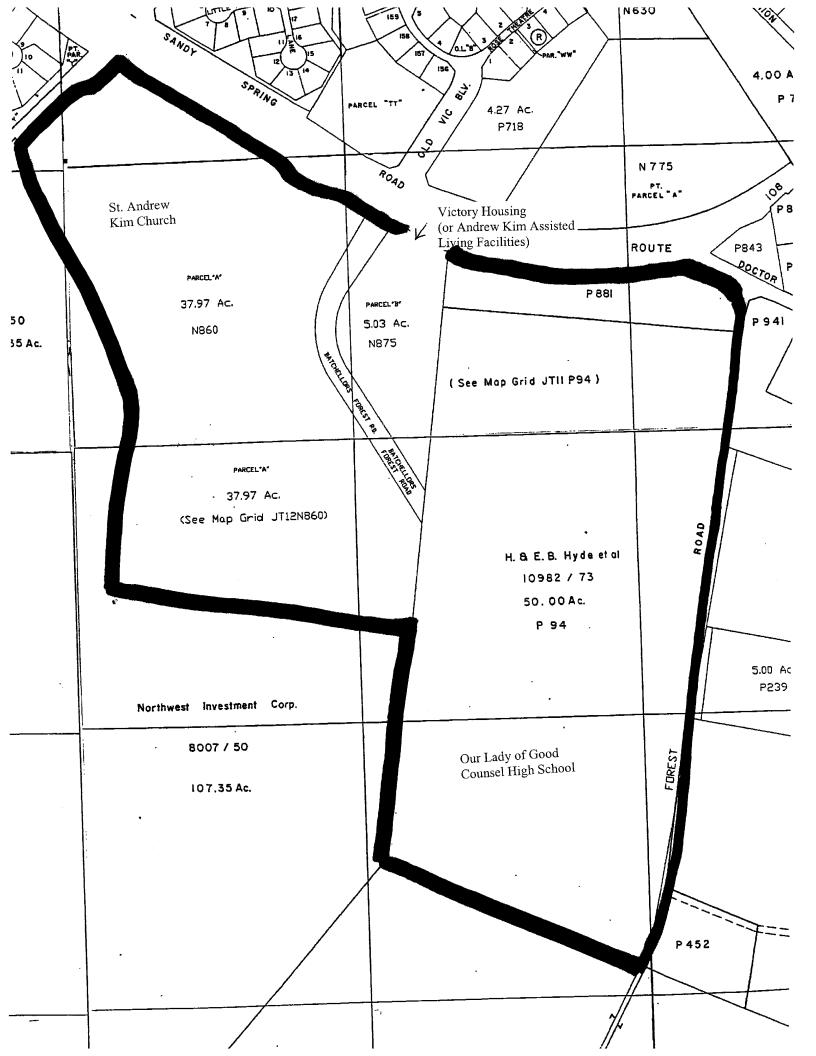
Stephen z. Kaufman/zyc

Stephen Z. Kaufman

cc: Mr. Art Raimo

Ms. Marlene Michaelson

Mr. Kevin Quinn Janet Meiburger, Esq. Yum Yu Cheng, Esq.





February 15, 2005



Via Hand Delivery

Mr. Charlie Loehr Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20902

Re: Request for Priority Funding Boundary Amendment in the Olney Planning Area for Inclusion of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School Site

Dear Mr. Lochr: Charlie

As a follow up to my e-mail to you earlier today, please find attached a hard copy of a letter dated February 10, 2005 from the School's Financial Advisor, Wye River Group, Inc., stating the reasons MIDFA financing is necessarily the preferred bond issuer for the school.

Thank you for your continued attention to this matter. Should you have any further questions or need anything else, please give me a call.

Sincerely yours,

LINOWES AND BLOCHER LLP

Stephen Z. Kaufman

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Art Raimo

Ms. Marlene Michaelson

Mr. Kevin Quinn

Michele Rosenfeld, Esq. Janet Meiburger, Esq.

Yum Yu Cheng, Esq.