

Jasmine Forbes

From: Jasmine Forbes
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:38 AM
To: 'Alexia Fraser'
Subject: RE: NO" to the toxic DeVol Crematorium application SP-8415-2020.

Good Morning,

Thank you for your correspondence related to Concept Site Plan application SP-8415-2020. Your correspondence will be included in the Council's record for their consideration. Please note that the Council's record on this application will close on September 16th. For information about the application, please visit the project page:

<https://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/government/projects-in-the-city/10-and-14-east-deer-park-drive> .

Regards,

Jasmine Forbes



Jasmine Forbes, Planner I
Planning and Code Administration

City of Gaithersburg | 31 South Summit Avenue | Gaithersburg, MD, 20877
Direct: 240-805-1069 | Main: 301-258-6330 | www.gaithersburgmd.gov
Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov

From: Alexia Fraser <afraser0915@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 22, 2020 2:58 PM
To: Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jud Ashman <Jud.Ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Robert Wu <robert.wu@gaithersburgmd.gov>
Cc: Laurie-Anne Sayles <Laurie-Anne.Sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Michael Sesma <michael.sesma@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Neil Harris <Neil.Harris@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Ryan Spiegel <ryan.spiegel@gaithersburgmd.gov>
Subject: NO" to the toxic DeVol Crematorium application SP-8415-2020.

This email is from an EXTERNAL source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

As a long standing resident of the community with a young family I am writing to oppose DeVols crematorium application.

- Crematoriums are an Industrial Use in Montgomery County and have no legal place in a residential neighborhood
- We do not want a crematorium – blowing the ashes of dead bodies – near our homes, parks, and schools.

- DeVol is located in Gaithersburg's Commercial-Development (CD) Zone. A CD Zone is intended to enhance resident's lives.
- There is only one other crematorium in Montgomery County, Pumphrey Funeral Home in Downtown Bethesda. Its zoning is grandfathered from decades ago and would never be approved today.
- DeVol is misrepresenting that cremation is part of a funeral home's operations. This is not true. It is a separately licensed service.
- DeVol has held no public meetings. They want a bigger parking lot but say there will be no more traffic. They submitted misleading graphics.

Their business plan shouldn't supersede the health and wellness of an indefinite amount families for generations.

Thank you,
Alexia Fraser

Jasmine Forbes

From: Jasmine Forbes
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:42 AM
To: 'Betsy Moore'
Subject: RE: "NO" to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020.

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Thank you for your correspondence related to Concept Site Plan application SP-8415-2020. Your correspondence will be included in the Council's record for their consideration. Please note that the Council's record on this application will close on September 16th. For information about the application, please visit the project page:

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Regards,

Jasmine Forbes



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Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov

From: Betsy Moore <moore.betsy@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 22, 2020 4:48 PM
To: Jud Ashman <Jud.Ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Planning External Mailing <Planning@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Laurie-Anne Sayles <Laurie-Anne.Sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Michael Sesma <michael.sesma@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Ryan Spiegel <ryan.spiegel@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Robert Wu <robert.wu@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Neil Harris <Neil.Harris@gaithersburgmd.gov>
Subject: "NO" to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020.

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Dear City Leaders,

I live near the Deer Park area, which is a residential zone. I am concerned that the DeVol crematorium will bring an industrial zone into my neighborhood and will negatively affect people. I don't want a tall "chimney" emitting smoke and chemicals into the air where thousands of residents live, work, and go to school. I don't want the quality of life here changed by more traffic and smoke.

If you drive from Summit Avenue toward Deer Park Road, you go down a hill. So any smoke emitted from a crematorium would be at a low point and be dispersed throughout the neighborhood.

The people who live in this neighborhood trusted that it was a safe and healthy place to live and raise families. Converting a single family home into a crematorium betrays that trust. Would you want the house next door to you to be converted into a crematorium?

Please honor the trust of city residents and reject DeVol's proposal.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Moore

Jasmine Forbes

From: Jasmine Forbes
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:44 AM
To: 'Ann G.'
Subject: RE: "NO" to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020

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Regards,

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Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov

From: Ann G. <ayc1599@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 22, 2020 11:24 PM
To: Jud Ashman <Jud.Ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Laurie-Anne Sayles <Laurie-Anne.Sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Neil Harris <Neil.Harris@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Michael Sesma <michael.sesma@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Ryan Spiegel <ryan.spiegel@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Robert Wu <robert.wu@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>
Subject: "NO" to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020

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Dear Mayor/Councilman/Planner

I live in the deep park area which is a residential zone. I am concerned that the devol crematorium will bring an industrial zone into my neighborhood and will negatively affect the people I care about, i have a young child myself as well. I do not want any poisonous chemicals into the air that we breathe in everyday, please reject this proposal.

Jasmine Forbes

From: Jasmine Forbes
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:47 AM
To: 'Cynthia Samaha'
Subject: RE: "NO" to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020.

Good Morning,

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Regards,
Jasmine Forbes



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Direct: 240-805-1069 | Main: 301-258-6330 | www.gaithersburgmd.gov
Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov

From: Cynthia Samaha <cynthia.samaha00@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2020 12:27 AM
To: Jud Ashman <Jud.Ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Planning External Mailing <Planning@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Laurie-Anne Sayles <Laurie-Anne.Sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Michael Sesma <michael.sesma@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Ryan Spiegel <ryan.spiegel@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Robert Wu <robert.wu@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Neil Harris <Neil.Harris@gaithersburgmd.gov>
Subject: "NO" to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020.

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Dear Mayor/Councilman/Planner,

This is Cynthia Samaha. My family of three and I live in the Deer Park area which is a residential zone. I am concerned that the DeVol crematorium will bring an industrial zone into my neighborhood and will negatively affect the people I care about. I don't want a tall "chimney" emitting smoke and chemicals into the air where thousands of residents live, work, go to school. This parcel is not zoned for industrial use. I don't want the quality of life here changed by more traffic and smoke. Please reject this proposal.

Best Regards,
Cynthia

Jasmine Forbes

From: Jasmine Forbes
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:50 AM
To: 'Zahra Eslami'
Subject: RE: NO to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020

Good Morning,

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Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov

From: Zahra Eslami <zahrae@ymail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2020 11:47 AM
To: Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>
Cc: Planning External Mailing <Planning@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Laurie-Anne Sayles <Laurie-Anne.Sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Michael Sesma <michael.sesma@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Ryan Spiegel <ryan.spiegel@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Robert Wu <robert.wu@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Neil Harris <Neil.Harris@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jud Ashman <Jud.Ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov>
Subject: NO to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020

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We chose the Rosemont neighborhood partially based on its safety. I do not wish to have toxic chemicals polluting my neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods. There are three schools and daycares in the area. The EPA stated that toxins are released into the air through the cremation of human bodies. The most dangerous of these is Mercury. During the cremation process the Mercury in the body becomes vaporized into a colorless odorless gas. Mercury is especially dangerous in this heated vaporized form because when inhaled it is quickly absorbed into the bloodstream and carried to the brain and other organs. Even very small amounts of mercury can be dangerous. The EPA confirms that there are serious health effects from even low level exposure to mercury. In children Mercury causes learning disabilities and autism and in adults it affects the lungs, the kidneys, the nervous system and the immune system.

Other toxins that are released include particulate matter, dioxins, dibenzofurans, hydrogen chloride, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide.

According to the cremation association of North America filtering the fumes has little effect on the toxins released.

Home and property values will go down so city tax revenue could also go down.

Schools will need more money for special education.

The scent of an incinerating body has been described as nauseating and sweet, putrid and steaky - like leather being tanned.

536.6 lb of carbon dioxide are produced from incinerating one body.

For the above reasons I am against the approval of the DeVol crematorium.

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