

**Jasmine Forbes**

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**From:** Jasmine Forbes  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:14 AM  
**To:** 'Fatima Eslami'  
**Subject:** RE: No crematorium

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](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov)  
[Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov](mailto:Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov)

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

From: Fatima Eslami <[feslami84@gmail.com](mailto:feslami84@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2020 5:33 PM  
To: Jasmine Forbes <[Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov](mailto:Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov)>  
Subject: No crematorium

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

Good day

This email is to inform you that as a public citizen in Gaithersburg I oppose this plan.

## Jasmine Forbes

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**From:** Jasmine Forbes  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:18 AM  
**To:** 'Yvette Debebe'  
**Subject:** RE: NO to the proposed 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:

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Regards,

Jasmine Forbes



**Jasmine Forbes, Planner I**  
**Planning and Code Administration**

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[Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov](mailto:Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov)

**From:** Yvette Debebe <debebera10@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 6:08 PM  
**To:** Laurie-Anne Sayles <Laurie-Anne.Sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov>; michael.sesma@gaithersburgmd.gov; Ryan Spiegel <ryan.spiegel@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Robert Wu <robert.wu@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Neil Harris <Neil.Harris@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jud Ashman <Jud.Ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Planning External Mailing <Planning@gaithersburgmd.gov>  
**Subject:** NO to the proposed Devol Crematorium application SP-8415-2020

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

Dear Mr. Mayor/Councilman/Planner,

Please accept this email in opposition to the proposed Devol crematorium.

Let the children in the neighborhood breathe clean air. Don't pollute the air further with more toxic waste. For far too long black and brown peoples have had to put up with your callous disregard for the lives of working class people. Everyone knows that this is a vibrant, densely populated working class residential zoned neighborhood. In the vicinity, there are many single family homes, apartment buildings, two elementary schools, a high school and a park. Many elementary school age children live in the large apartment complex across the road from the proposed crematorium.

The proposed Crematorium would release deadly toxins in the air causing respiratory illnesses, cancer and deaths.

Please REJECT the proposal for a crematorium in the Deer Park area.

If there is one lesson we should all learn from this COVID-19 nightmare is that respiratory illnesses can have devastating impacts on all aspects of everyone's lives and livelihoods. We should be promoting the protection of clean air in residential neighborhoods.

Toxins from the proposed crematorium will cause an increase in respiratory illness. Illness such as Asthma which has a high prevalence, morbidity, and mortality rates throughout Maryland. Many disparities exist in asthma morbidity and mortality. Persons at increased risk for asthma and its complications include the very young, the elderly, Black racial demographic, Latinx communities, women, individuals with low-income and lower levels of education.

According to the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in 2012, an estimated 606,500 (13.4%) Maryland adults and 232,100 (17.3%) Maryland children had a history of asthma. The 2012 age-adjusted asthma-related mortality rate in Maryland was 23.6 deaths per million population with asthma as either an underlying or contributing cause. This is much higher than the national average.

I am adding these facts from Maryland's Department of Health (MDH) Asthma in Maryland 2012 report. I looked at the website and couldn't find a more recent version of the report. This, however, will give a good picture of asthma –just one common respiratory illness– in Maryland.

- Averaging 2008 and 2010 data, the current asthma prevalence was significantly higher for adults who self-reported their race/ethnicity as Black, non-Hispanic (10.3%) compared to White, non-Hispanic and Other, non-Hispanic race/ ethnicity categories (8.6%, 6.9%).
- Averaging 2008 and 2010 data, adults that completed a college education had a significantly lower prevalence of asthma (7.4%) compared to those with less education.
- The lowest level of education, 'Less than High School' had a significantly higher prevalence of asthma compared to those with more education.
- Averaging 2008-2010 data, adults reporting an annual household income in the lowest categories (less than \$15,000 and \$15-\$24,999) had a significantly higher current asthma prevalence (15.5% and 13.9%) compared to adults reporting higher annual household incomes.
- Averaging 2008 and 2010 data, 30.7% of adults with asthma were diagnosed as children between the ages of 1 to 10 years old.
- Lifetime asthma prevalence in Maryland children showed an increase of approximately 40% from 2003 to 2010.
- The child lifetime asthma prevalence is significantly higher in Maryland vs. the United States (16.4% vs. 12.6%).
- Averaging 2008 and 2010 data, the current asthma prevalence was significantly higher for Black, non- Hispanic children (16.1%) compared to White, non-Hispanic children (7.8%) and Hispanic children (9.7%).

- In Maryland, adults with current asthma are statistically more likely to be obese (36.6%) compared to adults that never had asthma (25.8%).
- Asthma contributes to school absenteeism in Maryland. 19.2% of parents reported that their child missed 1-2 days of school because of asthma during the past year and 9.7% said their child missed over 7 days due to asthma (8-29 days and 30+ days combined). Over half of parents (56.2%) reported that their child missed no days of school due to asthma.
- Asthma emergency department visits for Black/ African Americans in Maryland were significantly higher than the rate of Whites (150.0 vs. 29.7 per 10,000). Young children are brought to the ED for asthma more often than adults.
- From 2006-2010, in Maryland, Disparities in asthma mortality continue to exist - Blacks continue to die at a rate over twice as high than that of Whites (2006-2010 mortality rate of 20.2 vs. 8.9 per million). Women have a higher mortality rate than men (2006- 2010 mortality rate of 15.3 vs. 8.7 per million). Asthma mortality rates are highest in the elderly and lowest in children under 5 years of age (2006-2010 mortality rate of 39.8 vs. 2.7 per million).
- This report confirms that asthma continues to be a major public health problem in Maryland. An estimated 12.4% of Maryland adults and 16.4% of Maryland children have been diagnosed with asthma. An estimated 8.4% of adults and 11.9% of children in Maryland currently have asthma. Over the past decade, these prevalence rates have been steadily increasing.
- The monetary cost of asthma hospitalizations and emergency department visits is substantial and is largely borne by public insurers, Medicare and Medicaid. In 2012, billed charges for hospitalizations due to asthma totaled \$63.8 million; billed charges for emergency department visits due to asthma totaled an additional \$36.6 million.

Based on all the above facts, please REJECT the proposal for a crematorium in the Deer Park area.

Here are two bible verses to meditate on:

*“Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.” Isaiah 1:17 ESV*

*“A righteous man knows the rights of the poor; a wicked man does not understand such knowledge.” Proverbs 29:7 ESV*

Sincerely,

Y DeBebe

**Jasmine Forbes**

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**From:** Jasmine Forbes  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:22 AM  
**To:** 'tecowell'  
**Subject:** RE: "NO" to the proposed DeVol 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**

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[Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov](mailto:Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov)

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**From:** tecowell <tecowell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 8:03 PM  
**To:** j wa <jwa08@hotmail.com>; laurie\_anne.sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov; micheal.sesma@gsithersburgmg.gov; ryan.spiegel@gaithersburgmd.gov; Robert Wu <robert.wu@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Neil Harris <Neil.Harris@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jud Ashman <Jud.Ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Planning External Mailing <Planning@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Laurie-Anne Sayles <Laurie-Anne.Sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Ryan Spiegel <ryan.spiegel@gaithersburgmd.gov>; micheal.sesma@gaithersburgmd.gov  
**Subject:** "NO" to the proposed DeVol application Sp-8415-2020  
**Importance:** High

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

Dear Mayor/Councilman/Planner,

I live in the Deer Park area which is a residential zone.

I am extremely concerned that the DeVol crematorium will bring an industrial zone into my neighborhood and will highly impact me and my family and people in my community that I care about in a very very negative way!

I do not want this capability in a town that I love and care about where an establishment will be emitting smoke and chemicals into the air we breathe....where thousands of residents live work, and go to school. This parcel is not zoned for industrial use. I do not want the quality of life here changed by more traffic and smoke. This requested proposal is Not supposed to be allowed to be conducted in a community environment but rather out jn the midfld of no where why should all of our lives and a town we love be jepordized for one business that will ultimatly be endangering our health and children's lives.

I love the city of gaithersburg. And look forward living here for many years. I beg you... please do what is right for the citizens of gaithersburg and reject this proposal.

Would you want to live near a creamation center and chance your family breathing it in?

Thank you for taking time to read my email, and taking my request into consideration.

V/r  
A concerned citizen  
Tad Cowell  
240-426-4823

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

**Jasmine Forbes**

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**From:** Jasmine Forbes  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:24 AM  
**To:** 'Patrice Uylett'  
**Subject:** RE: NO to the proposed Devol 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:

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Regards,  
Jasmine Forbes



**Jasmine Forbes, Planner I**  
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[Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov](mailto:Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov)

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**From:** Patrice Uylett <erica\_passley@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 8:45 PM  
**To:** jud.ashman@gathersburgmd.gov  
**Cc:** Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>; laurie-anna.sayles@gaithersburgmd.gov; Michael Sesma <michael.sesma@gaithersburgmd.gov>; ryan.speigel@gaithersburgmd.gov; Robert Wu <robert.wu@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Neil Harris <Neil.Harris@gaithersburgmd.gov>  
**Subject:** NO to the proposed Devol application SP-8415-2020

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

Dear Mr. Mayor/Councilman/Planner

Please accept this email as my written opposition to the proposed crematorium.

As a nurse i believe the children of the neighborhood deserves to breathe clean air. Don't pollute the air further with more toxic waste. For far too long black and brown peoples have had to put up with the disregard for the lives of working class people.

Everyone knows that this is a vibrant, densely populated working class residential zoned neighborhood. In the vicinity, there are many single family homes, apartment buildings, two elementary schools, a high school and a park. Many elementary school age children live in the large apartment complex across the road from the proposed site.

The proposed Crematorium would release deadly toxins in the air causing respiratory illnesses, cancer and even deaths.

Please REJECT the proposal for a crematorium in the Deer Park area.

If there is one lesson we should all learn from this COVID-19 nightmare is that respiratory illnesses can have devastating impacts on all aspects of everyone's lives and livelihoods. We should be promoting the protection of clean air in residential neighborhoods.

Toxins from the proposed crematorium will cause an increase in respiratory illness. Illness such as Asthma which has a high prevalence, morbidity, and mortality rates throughout Maryland. Many disparities exist in asthma morbidity and mortality. Persons at increased risk for asthma and its complications include the very young, the elderly, Black racial demographic, Latinx communities, women, individuals with low-income and lower levels of education.

According to the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in 2012, an estimated 606,500 (13.4%) Maryland adults and 232,100 (17.3%) Maryland children had a history of asthma. The 2012 age-adjusted asthma-related mortality rate in Maryland was 23.6 deaths per million population with asthma as either an underlying or contributing cause. This is much higher than the national average.

I am adding these facts from Maryland's Department of Health (MDH) Asthma in Maryland 2012 report. I looked at the website and couldn't find a more recent version of the report. This, however, will give a good picture of asthma –just one respiratory illness– in Maryland.

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- Averaging 2008 and 2010 data, 30.7% of adults with asthma were diagnosed as children between the ages of 1 to 10 years old.

- Lifetime asthma prevalence in Maryland children showed an increase of approximately 40% from 2003 to 2010.
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- Asthma EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT visits for Black/ African Americans in Maryland were significantly higher than the rate of Whites (150.0 vs. 29.7 per 10,000). Young children are brought to the ED for asthma more often than adults.
- From 2006-2010, in Maryland, Disparities in asthma mortality continue to exist - Blacks continue to die at a rate over twice as high than that of Whites (2006-2010 mortality rate of 20.2 vs. 8.9 per million). Women have a higher mortality rate than men (2006- 2010 mortality rate of 15.3 vs. 8.7 per million). Asthma mortality rates are highest in the elderly and lowest in children under 5 years of age (2006-2010 mortality rate of 39.8 vs. 2.7 per million).
- This report confirms that asthma continues to be a major public health problem in Maryland. An estimated 12.4% of Maryland adults and 16.4% of Maryland children have been diagnosed with asthma. An estimated 8.4% of adults and 11.9% of children in Maryland currently have asthma. Over the past decade, these prevalence rates have been steadily increasing.
- The monetary cost of asthma hospitalizations and emergency department visits is substantial and is largely borne by public insurers, Medicare and Medicaid. In 2012, billed charges for hospitalizations due to asthma totaled \$63.8 million; billed charges for emergency department visits due to asthma totaled an additional \$36.6 million.

Based on all the above facts I ask that you REJECT the proposal for a crematorium in the Deer Park area.

Sincerely,



**Jasmine Forbes**

---

**From:** Jasmine Forbes  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:27 AM  
**To:** 'leslyrivas@aol.com'  
**Subject:** RE: "No" to the proposed DeVol 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:

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Regards,  
Jasmine Forbes



**Jasmine Forbes, Planner I**  
**Planning and Code Administration**

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[Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov](mailto:Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov)

**From:** leslyrivas@aol.com <leslyrivas@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 10:02 PM  
**To:** 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>; Jasmine Forbes <Jasmine.Forbes@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Jud Ashman <Jud.Ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov>; Planning External Mailing <Planning@gaithersburgmd.gov>  
**Subject:** "No" to the proposed DeVol application SP-8415-2020

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Dear Mayor/Councilman/Planner,

I have lived in the Deer Park area which is a residential zone for 27 years. 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 agree with smoke and chemicals being emitted into the air where thousands of residents like me 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 please please reject this proposal.