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1805 Gamewell Rd
Silver Spring, MD 20905

Zoning Text Amendment
for Sandy Spring Ashton Overlay Zone
April 21, 2009

Preserve Rural Historic Sandy Spring and Ashton

I have lived in the Ashton/Sandy Spring area for more than 24 years. I am a member of the Sandy Spring-Ashton Rural Preservation Consortium (SSARPC) Steering Committee, but my comments tonight are made only as a private citizen.

I am pleased that the Montgomery County Council took the initiative to update the list of land uses prohibited in the Sandy Spring/Ashton Rural Overlay Zone. I'm very interested in seeing Montgomery County continue to promote development that maintains the rural and historic character identified with our community. The rural nature of the Sandy Spring and Ashton is evident as one walks, bikes, or drives past rolling fields and tree lined neighborhoods. There are many historic homes in and around the overlay zone, registered and un-registered. These homes, in conjunction with well planned development guided by the Sandy Spring/Ashton Master Plan, have served to create a sense a place that both residents and visitors enjoy.

I believe that the Zoning Text Amendment before us clarifies the objective and intent of the original Sandy Spring/Ashton Rural Village Overlay Zone. I therefore support the Amendment and hope County Council will too.

Thanks you for your time.