

My name is Elizabeth Garrettson - I live at 18001 Bentley Rd., ½ mile from the proposed Ashton Meeting Place . My family settled the Sandy Spring community (which includes Ashton) in 1728 - I have a long history in this area. I am a member of the SSARPC. Two and a half years ago, the community first heard of the plans for developing a Mall in Ashton; we heard that the promoters had been working on the plans for over two years. Most of us thought the plan was unattractive and immediately realized that it completely ignored a Master Plan that was developed specifically to prevent such massive development. It is a shame that it has taken so long to reach the point where most of us in the community are supporting the plan as it is being presented today. Except for a few aesthetic changes, all it took was following the Master Plan. This is the first of the 4 corners in the intersection to be changed in a long time. We hope as other changes are made - with a proposal for the NW corner on the books - that simply following the Master Plan exactly, by the contractor and the Planning Board, will avert such problems and allow the development to progress in a timely and attractive manner.