

January 8, 2009

Kathryn Virkus
1047 Windrush Lane
Sandy Spring, Maryland 20860
Vice President Sandy Spring Village HOA
Preliminary plan # 120080410

Ez/Storage

My name is Kathy Virkus I have been a resident of Olney/Sandy Spring for 30 years. I live in Sandy Spring Village a small community of 39 Town homes less than ½ mile of the proposed site of this Ez/Storage Facility. I am currently the elected Vice President of the Home Owner Association. I purchased my home in Sandy Spring 21 years ago because I loved the Rural/Historic nature of the Sandy Spring Community. Sandy Spring was at the time I purchased my home and still is zoned Rural/Village. There is a proposal on the table to allow EZ storage to construct a storage unit on the land formerly used by W.H. Rental. This is a self/storage unit that will be available for private storage as well as commercial storage.

Sandy Spring Village HOA is opposing this usage!

This plan is inconsistent with the **Sandy Spring/Ashton Master Plan** vision, which is to preserve the character of Sandy Spring/Ashton as a “Rural/Historic Village”. This proposed use of this site does nothing to support the “Village Center Concept”. This usage will greatly increase traffic to already overburdened roads and does nothing to promote pedestrian traffic as a matter of fact I believe the additional traffic will create a danger for our students who attend Sherwood High School who now walk to and from school. I live at the corner of rt.108 and Norwood Roads, currently traffic in the am and the pm “rush hours” is backed up maybe 20 cars down Norwood Rd. It is very difficult for us to exit or enter our community during these hours.

This type of business does not benefit the residents of Sandy Spring/Ashton in anyway. It does not bring employment, entertainment or any type of historic education to our residents. Sandy Spring has a very limited amount of commercial property. I think we should use our commercial property to support the *vision* of the Sandy Spring/Ashton Master Plan.