

Dear Council members,

We are writing to express our opposition to Bill 6-23; ZTA 23-01 which would de-facto turn private pools in our neighborhood into public, for-profit facilities.

First, we'd like to share some of our own experience as homeowners who had the misfortune of living across the street from a family that has chosen to rent out its pool through the Swimply app.

During the entire summer, our street, which designed for limited traffic and parking and has no sidewalks, experienced a constant flow all pool-renters arriving from early morning and until sundown. While all were courteous and seemed to be interested solely in spending some quality time with their family alongside a private pool, neighbors had to deal with the noise caused by the steady stream of renters and with a shortage of parking spots.

In a quick walk around our very small circular street, we counted at least 5 private pools. If this bill is adopted, all of them could, and likely would, put their pools up for rent through the pool rental app. With dozens of renters arriving all day, every day, the noise and traffic would significantly impact our lives and the lives of our non-pool-renter neighbors.

Our Montgomery County neighborhood is a residential zone. This is the reason we chose to live here, to raise our family here, and to work remotely out of home knowing the streets will be quiet. This proposed bill would change this reality for the worse.

We'd also note that while certain rental measures make sense and should be fully supported, turning private pools into public, for-profit rentals would do little to benefit ordinary residents, would profit Swimply, the company which seems to have been lobbying for this change, and could pose real safety risks for renters of an unregulated and unguarded public pool.

We urge you to vote against the bill.

Sincerely,

Vered and Nathan Guttman