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By email: ozah@montgomerycountymd.gov

Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings
Montgomery County, Maryland
100 Maryland Avenue, Room 200
Rockville, MD 20850

Support Re: Special Exception Application of Holton-Arms School, Case No. CBA-1174-E

To the Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings:

We are writing to express our support for Holton-Arms School's request for a Special Exception Major Modification and to share our family's experience with transportation to the school.

Our daughter Marjan is a senior at Holton-Arms, and we live in Arlington, Virginia. When she began at Holton in eighth grade she used the school bus that serves Arlington families. As her schedule evolved, particularly with ballet commitments, we transitioned to a neighborhood carpool with other Holton and Landon School families.

Over time that carpool grew to include five or six students traveling together each morning. Once Marjan received her driver's license, she began driving the Holton students herself and continues to do so. The students coordinate their schedules, and the arrangement works very well for the families involved.

Holton also provides tools such as a carpool finder database that helps families identify other students living nearby who may be interested in sharing rides. While we ultimately formed our carpool organically with neighbors whose children attend Holton and Landon, it was clear that there are many families in our area who use shared transportation to get to campus.

For the students, the carpool also became an enjoyable part of the school day. Marjan and the other girls looked forward to the drive, often sharing music and conversation on the way to school.

Our experience shows that, in addition to the bus system, carpools provide an effective transportation option for Holton families. By connecting nearby families, the school helps reduce individual car trips while also building community among students.

For these reasons, we support Holton-Arms School's request for a Special Exception Major Modification.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill McNulty
Negar Ahkami

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