

Hello,

As someone who grew up on Colesville Manor Dr, in the neighborhood directly behind this proposed development, I am voicing my support for the Notley Road Local Map Amendment H-159. This is a great opportunity to provide much needed housing in a close-in, accessible neighborhood. Currently for me, a 28 year old with full time employment, there is no housing in Colesville that I can afford to live in, besides my parent's house, and basement apartments that you rent off craigslist or facebook marketplace.

What the detractors of this proposed amendment get wrong is that the charm of Colesville doesn't lie in it's built environment. The charm of Colesville lies in it's people. I want more people to experience this. I want more people to have the opportunity to take part in the Colesville community.

I would love to move back out someday, living in my own space close by my parents house. I live in DC for now, and while I enjoyed my time here, I want to move back to Montgomery county. I want to be in a quiet neighborhood. A neighborhood that is well connected. A neighborhood where I can see my parents regularly, and talk to the neighbors I grew up with. I do miss backyard get togethers at Greg and Ani's house, where the neighbors would get together and talk for hours and hours, until someone mentions that it's midnight and we all realize we stayed up too late again.

These townhouses give me the potential to afford a place in the neighborhood I grew up in. And while my neighbors don't like this, I think they will come around. Change is scary. But this is good change. This allows me to potentially raise a family in Colesville.

My kids will be able to visit their grandparents regularly. Their grandparents will be able to watch them if my partner and I need to work late.

My Kids will go to neighborhood get-togethers at Ani and Greg's house, trying new fancy foods, and swimming in their small pool.

My kids will grow up in a fabulously diverse neighborhood, and go to schools that have people from all walks of life roaming the halls.

My kids will take advantage of new transit options that I never had.

My kids will ride their bikes to Robin Hood. And if it storms, They won't have to ride their bikes in the rain just because the pool closed. They can take microtransit home.

They will have easy access to the red and green lines, thanks to the New Hampshire avenue flash bus. I think about how many 930 club and fillmore shows I missed growing up, just because I never had a ride to get there. They will be able to enjoy whatever artist comes around.

And they will be able to visit their friends in person, thanks to these transportation options. I was separated from a lot of my friends outside of school, because I never had a way to get home from their houses. I would go straight home, and because I didn't have an Xbox, I couldn't hangout with them after school. My kids will be able to visit their friends after school, and know they have a way home.

The Colesville I grew up in didn't have these transit options. The Colesville they grow up in will. But we won't be able to live there without more housing options. This is why I support the Notley Road townhouses. This is why I support Notley Road Local Map Amendment H-159.

Craig Grunewald