Number	Date	Name	Address
1	7/10/2023	Deborah Kennedy	203 Prescott Cir SE
2	7/10/2023	Tim Fricker (TBLC)	128A Church St NW
3	7/10/2023	Jerry LaHaie	135 Center St S
4	7/10/2023	Bob McCahill	429 Center St N
5	7/10/2023	Eileen Kragie	1876 Foxstone Dr
6	7/10/2023	Henry Blinder	201A Park St SE
7	7/10/2023	Penny Oszak	221 Nutley St NW
8	7/12/2023	Christina Tyler-Wenks	Great Falls
9	7/12/2023	Roy Baldwin	121 Moore Ave SE
10	7/12/2023	Mike Mittel	1007 Westwood Dr NE
11	7/12/2023	Leah Giovanniello	317 Broadleaf Dr NE
12	7/12/2023	Sam Ressin	309 Ayito Rd SE
13	7/12/2023	Linda Belk	401 Holloway Ct NE
14	7/12/2023	Sandy Shin	511 Kibler Cir SW

#### Deborah Kennedy 203 Prescott Cir SE

Hi. Debra Kennedy, 203 Prescott Circle. I'm here to talk about the BAR process that is a part of the zoning process. BAR is the Board of Architectural Review.

The Council is creating the new zoning code. It defines building heights, setbacks, and other key requirements. However, and this is from the Town Website, the Town of Vienna has no specific design guidelines. Decisions on design, architecture, and suitability are decided by the BAR. Council can adopt a new building code, but it is the BAR that determines how to implement the code. It is the BAR, not the Council, that determines the design of Vienna. We have been invited to comment on code changes. Code changes are insufficient without changing the BAR. The BAR has five members appointed by the Town for a three-year term. The current members of the BAR have been in place for up to twenty years. All non-resident developments must pass the BAR review before a Council vote. Every architectural change, from the massive Vienna Market development to the "Open" signs in store windows, all can be turned down or indefinitely delayed by the BAR. Thus, the BAR, five unelected officials, determine the architectural style for the Town.

Issues: BAR decisions often rest on the style preferences of its members. "I prefer," "I would like to see," "I think I like the other one," "Do you think this works?" These are standard comments. Longevity in position is often cited as a rationale for opinion. Longevity implies the opinion is indisputable. Large developers can work around the BAR, while smaller ones get lost in the process, repeatably delayed. We can lose the small-town development Vienna seeks because the BAR process drives it away. The BAR process and its members are relatively unknown to the vast majority of Vienna residents. It is a hidden power source. Suggestions: expand the BAR to seven members. Without a determined style for the Town, any opinion-based review needs a broader base. Staffing Boards and Commissions: The Town requires three-year BAR terms. Allow members two terms. Rotate members of Vienna Boards and Commissions across Commissions. We will get better, broader government, including the BAR. Aggressively recruit Board and Commission Members. Recruit at every Town event, simply with a flyer explaining the critical role [of] these groups, key skills, and links to more information. People don't know what they don't know. This is Vienna. There are good, smart people out there, and if we can't find them, we're not doing something right. And then, finally, we need to determine: "Is BAR creating a better Vienna?" We don't have any metrics. We need to analyze the decisions over the past ten years to measure both the costs and the opportunity costs of the BAR's decisions. That's it. Thank you.

## Tim Fricker (TBLC) 128A Church St NW

Good evening, Mayor Colbert, Town Council, and Planning Commission. My name is Tim Fricker. I'm the owner of Bikes at Vienna, 128A Church Street Northwest, and I'm here representing the Town Business Liaison Committee.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide comments this evening on Code Create. The TBLC commends the Planning and Zoning Department on its perseverance and excellence in shepherding the Code Create Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance to this point. We see many positive changes, and we see this as a tool and resource that will benefit our entire business community in the future. We thank you for your tireless efforts. We will be submitting more extensive and detailed commentary in writing at a later date.

Tonight, I would like to specifically call out a few areas for comment by the TBLC. Our first point is regarding Article 2, Divisions 1, 4, and 6: Zones, Districts, and Dimensional Standards. Previous drafts of the code had the Avenue Center boundary lines from Lawyers Road to Branch Avenue [Road]. The TBLC would support the boundary line moving back to Branch Avenue [Road]. We believe the current boundaries leave out a conceivable area for potential redevelopment.

Additionally, we would like to affirm our support of the following: The TBLC supports preserving and cultivating the presence of office buildings in the core, specifically, to support small businesses, professional services, non-profits, et cetera. TBLC supports the proposed zoning setbacks for Avenue Center, and the TBLC supports Animal Care, Boarding as an approved use within the Town.

Our second point is regarding Article 5A, Divisions 5 to 8: Parking and Loading, Signage. The TBLC has concerns about enforcement of Section 5A, 18-524: Off-Street Parking, Generally, and asks for further elaboration on how this section will be managed. Additionally, the TBLC sees the need to address Church Street separately in regard to loading and unloading guidelines and bicycle parking. We have concerns regarding pedestrian and bicycle safety and access, and lack of marked loading and unloading zones, poor sightlines at parking lot entrances, and other issues in this heavily trafficked area.

One final point is related to Article 8, Division 4: Application and Processes. The TBLC supports the goal of creating underground utility services where and when it is feasible.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak this evening, and for all the work you have put into this, and I would like to add on a personal note: thank you for taking on something that we all know is going to leave somebody unhappy, so, I don't envy you that. Thank you.

Jerry LaHaie 135 Center St S COMMENT 03

Good evening. My name is Jerry LaHaie. I'm a 17-year resident of the Town of Vienna. Most recently, I bought a condominium from Sekas Homes at 135 Center Street South, it's an end unit, which is about 100 feet that way (Mr. LaHaie points to his left).

Each condo unit has their own rooftop outdoor living space, in our case, 400 square feet, with improvements, including gas, water, electricity, fireplace, lighting, and speakers. However, after a couple of years' experience using this space, we've found the sun and wind significantly limit our time on the deck. Umbrellas only cover a portion of the space and have to be moved frequently as the sun moves from east to west, and with the high winds at that height, the umbrellas have to be lowered a lot of the time.

The Architectural Review Committee of the Condo Association researched a number of solutions to that, such as awnings, sails, and pergolas. The Committee landed on a pergola as the best solution. The proposed pergola is 10 feet high, with a louver top open on all sides, and permanently attached to the roof. The Town's Board of Architectural Review did not approve the pergola, as it did not fall within any of the exceptions to the 35-foot height limit in the code. So, my comments tonight relate to Section 18-212.1, B & C: Structures, Dimensions, and Building Height, and you have previously been copied on this pamphlet, which contains pictures and drawings in support of my comments.

The first tab shows the front view of our unit taken across the street at the Vienna Elementary School sidewalk. When you look up, you cannot see the top of the door, the roof of the door leading onto the deck, which is 43 feet above the ground.

Tab 2 contains two photos of the existing rooftop outdoor living space, and for height references, in addition to the door being at 43 feet, the walls separating the units and the stone fireplace are 39 feet above the ground.

Tab 3 is a rear view of the property taken from our pavilion.

Tab 4 contains two renderings of what the pergola would look like on the outdoor living space. It's a louver top, supported by 4 corner posts, and open on all sides, and Tab 5 contains two pages showing the shop drawings of this structure, giving you the dimensions and scale. Tabs 6 and 7 are, I marked up provisions of the code showing the addition of a pergola as a structure, allowed to exceed the height limit.

Tab 8 is a copy of my written comments submitted to the Town Clerk on June 29th. I've been copied on six different unit owners who had submitted copies to the Town Clerk on support of the changes. More written comments are expected as people return from vacation. I thank you very much for your time in listening to my comments on the proposed code.

Bob McCahill 429 Center St N COMMENT 04

Hi, Madame Mayor and Council and Planning Commission. I have some pictures I'm going to hand out quick in support of my comments.

There's twenty of them, so there should be plenty to go around.

I'm Bob McCahill, 429 Center Street North, Vienna, Virginia, and President of the North East Vienna Citizen's Association.

First of all, I want to congratulate Mr. Levy and Ms. O'Brien, their staff, the Planning Commission, and the Council, and anyone and everyone involved with tackling this huge effort. I'll weigh in on just a couple of things in the draft code tonight, and I want to begin with a subject that NEVCA has petitioned for and brought the need for to Planning's and Council's attention several times over the years. Lighting standards. In the commercial districts, specifically.

I and others have sent examples of garish, unshielded light that affects neighborhood homes, but here is but one that I am giving you photos of tonight, sent from a NEVCA member to me, and to you, some time ago. The NEVCA member lives at 340 Park Street Northeast. By the way, much, if not most of this such lighting, is mounted on the front, and sometimes the back, of businesses/business structures, not standalone, in the Mill District, which is Mill Street and Dominion Road. Drive down there sometimes, I'm sure you all have, and you'll see what I mean. I really think that most of these businesses probably aren't aware of the light spillage. In past/part response, I assume due to our efforts, Council in 2017 listed lighting standards as a high priority for Planning to pursue. Thank you, thank you so much for including lighting standards for the first time in Town code. Specifically, we will benefit from that the cone of light to be directionally shielded such that it is contained on site, and doesn't spill over the property lines, in most cases, parking and storage areas.

There is other detail in the standards, all good, and will help to some extent, to be consistent with the proclamation that you, Mayor Colbert, presented to the President of the International Dark Skies Association in April, which recognizes, quote: "The aesthetic beauty and wonders of natural night sky." According to the proclamation, light pollution wastes natural resources, has economic and environmental consequences, causes energy insecurity, and negatively affects human health. I understand that there is some thought, a long-term goal, to consider a standalone light and noise ordinance in the interest of public tranquility. That discussion would be welcome if that goes on.

Lastly, I believe the tree requirements in the code are largely the same in the existing code? I think so. I was at the Town Council work session on June 12th to listen to the excellent presentations and suggestions for resolving our diminishing tree canopy problem, and I fully support a separate tree ordinance with a tree commission, as is the case in Fairfax County and other surrounding jurisdictions, to give promoting the benefits of a vibrant tree canopy the attention it deserves. Thank you.

Eileen Kragie 18

1876 Foxstone Dr

**COMMENT 05** 

Hi, my name is Eileen Kragie, and I live at 1876 Foxstone Drive. I'm the founder of Dark Sky Friends, an advocate for Dark Sky International, and a group leader for the new Northern Virginia chapter, and a member of the new Dark Sky Alliance that's being created in this region. First, I want to thank you all for all of your support and interest in preserving and reclaiming our dark skies, and in protecting everyone and everything from light pollution, and especially for issuing the proclamation that you did for International Dark Sky League this year and last. We first moved here to Vienna in 1969, when I was 10, so I've seen the changes that the decades have brought this town and this region. Light pollution is growing at twice the rate of the population, and it's doubling every 10 years. Like most everyone else, I didn't notice it for years while I was busy doing other things. Dark Sky International has been fighting this since 1988. The astronomers were the canaries in the coal mine in the seventies, who saw this problem growing.

Over the years, as technology has advanced, the growth and the impact of artificial light has worsened and is now as deadly to many forms of life. We all hear about the migrating birds, the fireflies, and what our electronic screens are doing disturbing our sleep. We hear about the blinding glare and the light trespass from our friends and neighbors. The disruption to circadian rhythms not only affects humans, but all plant and animal forms. ALON, artificial light at night, has been linked to cancer, breast and prostate, anxiety, depression, obesity, diabetes, sleep disorders, and more, and the body of research continues growing. Most people never thought about it and don't know about it.

The technology in lighting has advanced quickly. We now have programmable, dimmable, targetable lights, motion activated ones, and shielded ones that prevent light spill and light trespass, ones like the new Vienna Police Department just installed. The codes must protect everyone and the environment from not only poor lighting, but dangerous lighting. The bright blue, white light has now been shown to impact human, animal, and plant health, along with blotting out the view of the night sky.

So, I encourage this Council to adopt the strictest, responsible outdoor light at night ordinances, and to join us in helping educate the public and businesses on how to preserve and reclaim our dark skies, and to retain the historical feel of this town. So, these include adding light trespass as a cause of action to the codes, setting the lumen and kelvin limits to the lowest necessary for the need for the light, establish a sunset date for all existing fixtures and grandfathered fixtures, establish a moratorium on light during nighttime hours, dimming street lights, say from 11pm to 6am, as is being done in other communities, and striving for International Dark Sky Community standards, lighting standards, and also like the type of lighting ordinances adopted by other communities, like Middleburg, Virginia, and I sent that ahead this morning. The Town of Vienna has an opportunity right now to be the leader and model for responsible light at night in this region. (Time expires) I know, I'm terribly sorry. I was trying to speed it up. Thank you so much for all of the work that you do for this community.

# Henry Blinder 201A Park St SE

Good evening, I'm Henry Blinder, 201A Park Street Southeast. My wife and I appreciate the time and thoughtfulness of the Council, Manager, and Staff in this huge project, and a special thanks to the Planning Director and Assistant Director, who have really helped us to try to understand a couple sections of the proposed code.

We own a townhome next to the very peaceful Park Plaza Shopping Center, right by the roundabout at Park and Locust Street, Southeast. It's where the Stroke Comeback Center is, and Ledo Pizza, and the other stores there, and we're concerned that just a few of the permitted uses in the new Avenue Center zone could have an adverse impact on us and our neighbors. So, we respectfully ask that if hotels, grocery stores, funeral homes, and brewpubs, if they're going to be included in the new AC zone, that they would be conditional rather than permitted uses. These uses could, not necessarily would, but they could, bring new levels of noise, traffic, large delivery trucks, and unsightly loading docks in view of the neighbors. But if these uses are conditional, then the neighbors would be notified to ensure that they'd have an opportunity for input before the development would happen. And since there are no active hotels in our Town now, a hotel in any zone could potentially change the character of Vienna and would also warrant some extra evaluation by being a conditional, rather than a permitted use, at least in the Avenue Center zone. Thank you.

Penny Oszak 221 Nutley St NW

**COMMENT 07** 

Good evening. My name is Penny Oszak, 221 Nutley Street Northwest. Thank you all for all the work that you have done in this. I know I've been attending most of the meetings this year, so I know how much work it's been and what a struggle it's been. There are a couple of items that I would like to speak about.

First is parking. In the 3/24 Town Council session, with respect to Article 5, the Town Council requested that language be included in the code such that...there be language discouraging parking in front of commercial buildings. I couldn't find any of that language in Article 5A or B, so I was wondering if it was missed, and if it could be added to Articles 5A and B. The second thing I wanted to talk about with respect to parking was in Article 5A: Development Standards for Commercial, Industrial, and Mixed Use. There is a section, 18-532, which lists stacking requirements. There is no section for stacking requirements in Article 5B. I respectfully request that those be added. Living next to a school, and there are 3 schools in our area, there's certainly institutional uses which would require stacking requirements.

The second item I'd like to discuss is buffers. On page 5B-6 of Section 18-561, it talks about buffers between zones, and it has a specification tables, and it lists a five foot buffer and a ten foot buffer, but I don't know or can't find wha...who has five foot and who has ten foot, and I know it's a question I posed to staff, so I'm sure they'll get back to me, but I also notice that the word buffer isn't defined. Buffer area is, but buffer area is not the same thing as a buffer, and I want to make sure that buffer and open space are not used interchangeably, and that buffers are specifically used as a buffer, no activity is allowed except for maintenance-type activities. On page 5B-7, Section 18-561, it talks about buffers between zones. It talks about walls being required adjacent to single-family residential, but the first thing it says is: "all land zoned in Avenue Center, East, West, Church Street, Gateway South, and Mill Street, and then NM, and T, on which any institutional, public, or community zoned use is conducted shall be screened from all adjacent single unit detached and multi-attached units." I'm not sure why it calls out those specific zones. Such screening is required for the RMU zones, and the Church Street zones and Mixed-Use, but not single-family residents. It would seem to make sense that if you're going to put a wall between commercial and institutional, why wouldn't you do it between institutional and single-family? So, I'd like them to have a look at that and see if that can be added. Finally, with respect to CUPs, or C-U-P's, a topic near and dear to my heart, and I'm sure you all know that it is very important to me, when they talk about Conditions for Approval, it states...it doesn't state that they should meet the development requirements of Article 5B, and I think it would be important to add that they need to follow those development standards. The other thing about C-U-P's is, when we talk about Conditional Use Permit and the duration of the valid permit, how it can be void if construction's not started in 6 months, and if the operation hasn't commenced within 2 years, it can be revoked. We've had experiences with large CUPs being approved, and then small pieces being done. Like, let's just say that they were going to build an underground gym. So, in order to meet the 6-month requirement, they put a new sign in that was part of the project, but then the gym never got built. So, would that operation use be terminated since it's been well over 2 years? There's...lots of this goes on, so I think there needs to be a bit more clarity on what is meant by starting/finishing, so that there is clarity when things don't happen, so that those uses or those permits could be voided. Thank you so much. I appreciate your time.

### Christina Tyler-Winks Great Falls

Hi, I am Christina Tyler-Winks. I live in Great Falls. However, as a board member of Analemmas Society, a nonprofit that partners with Fairfax County Park Authority to provide science education through astronomy at Observatory Park in Great Falls, we serve all of you. We really thank you for your International Dark Sky Proclamation earlier this year, and now for addressing these ordinances that impact the quality of our lives for decades to come. Vienna really has an opportunity here to lead Northern Virginia by mandating responsible outdoor lighting at night that prioritizes the health of residents and wildlife, while still maintaining the historic small-town character of this growing community.

Research shared this month in the Washington Post, several science magazines, and a new Smithsonian exhibit illuminate the impact of artificial light at night on all living things. By May of this year, Observatory Park exceeded last year's 4,000 visitors. Popularity is growing, but with the artificial light at night doubling every ten years and also encroaching skyglow, our local treasure is threatened.

15 years ago, the Milky Way was visible at Turner Farm, which is now at Bortle 5, And that's more than halfway through the Bortle scale of the nighttime visibility. And from Great Falls, we can see you, Vienna, which is approaching Bortle 7. McLean is at 8. Tysons is topping the chart. Light trespass violates the rights of others and their health. Vienna's lighting ordinance should require fully shielded light fixtures, like those required in nearby Middleburg Virginia, which simplified its lighting ordinance language to eliminate confusion and ambiguity for residents, lawmakers, and code enforcement. Vienna's lighting ordinance must include guidelines for aesthetic landscaping. Lighting, too, that it does impact those of us who are looking at the night skies. Success requires everyone. No property should be grandfathered in, as is no waivers for developers. Tucson, Arizona did it, and they cut their costs. So, to those who say that more lighting is essential to safety, cheap LEDs are brighter, and they're often used incorrectly, causing glare and some safety issues. We can use infrared cameras. Simple steps to reduce light and pollution include pointing lights downward, using dimmers timers and motion sensors, replacing blue and white lights with warm lights, and turning off our lights when needed. Light pollution is human caused climate change that we can change. It is reversible, and we hope that you lead the way.

And, in closing, I invite all of you to join us on a Friday night, it's free, to see the nebulae, star clusters, and the colorful binary stars. And you'll also get to meet the volunteers from Vienna who are starting astronomy clubs in their high schools. Thank you.

## Roy Baldwin 121 Moore Ave SE

Hello, I'm Roy Baldwin at 121 Moore Avenue Southeast in Vienna. Good evening, Madam Mayor, members of the Town Council and members of the planning commission thank you for your service and all that you have done in this monumental effort.

I represent the Board of Architectural Review before you tonight. I'm the chair. And I can tell you that we don't have our report and recommendations ready yet. We did our best. We had a two and a half hour meeting this morning. We still have some loose ends to tie up. So, you will get our written report and recommendations shortly. I can tell you there are no huge surprises, but there will be lots of detail because the people at the Board of Architecture Review are the ones who have to deal with the ordinance, especially with regard to signs, lighting and so forth. I want to tell you that the report and recommendations will be the product of hours of study by the members of the board, discussion, several meetings, and tonight, I would just like to recognize the contributions of my fellow board members Linda van Doorn, Mike Cheselka, Patty Hanley, and Paul Layer, all of whom have gone above and beyond and really have impressed me in the dedication that they have brought to this task. And I can't forget all the town staff who have been so helpful and responsive and supportive, especially Sharmaine Abaied, Kelly O'Brien, Yaska Camacho...I think Kelly, I'm not sure she's been out of this building for the past week or so. And a special commendation to the intern, Brent Miller, who was able to really give us some useful visual displays on very short notice. It's because of the dedication of all these individuals and more, I'm sure, that I don't know of, that I'm confident that the document you will receive by your deadline will be very useful to you and it'll be easy to follow, and I strongly recommend it. Thank you.

**Mike Mittel** 

1007 Westwood Dr NE

**COMMENT 10** 

Thank you. Good evening. I'm Mike Mittel. I live at 1007 Westwood Drive Northeast in Vienna. Thank you for letting me speak tonight. I just had a couple of comments overall. First, I want to comment and commend the staff. The work having compared to the original ordinance and what's coming out now and what's being proposed, there's a lot of improvements along the way. And my comments are really just focused in a couple of areas and that's really in the Avenue districts, Avenue Central, East and West. Overall, I think one of the things we really need to consider seriously is how much we want to put actual upper level residential along the busiest part of Vienna. There's a lot of push, I know, for high density, mixed use. We haven't had a lot of success with that. We've got Vienna Market. Buildings are done, very expensive. Buildings are finished. Residents are in. No commercial. We're not getting any revenue out of that yet. 444 Maple. It's not even really moving along yet. The mixed use I've seen in a lot of other parts of, particularly Falls Church, they've got vacancies. I think our focus on the central part of the district really should be on the commercial needs and services of what this town has. There's a lot of new ones that have gone in in existing spaces or done modifications that we really enjoy in this town. The other thing is I still like the 35-foot height restriction. The Central District, Avenue Central is proposed 42ft. It becomes a bit of an urban canyon as you're going down through there. The other piece of that is it kind of conflicts with what's right behind it, which is what I think is one of the nicest parts of Vienna, and that's Church Street, and the architecture that was done along Church Street. So, just from that perspective alone, I think if consider seriously maybe keeping to our 35-foot limits. Lastly, if we are going to do residential along that section, see what we can do about making it may be affordable where it's rentals, maybe it's over 55. Taking care of people in our community. It would really be nice if some of the people that provide the services for using town actually could live in town. All the developments have gone in have been million dollar plus, they tore down a million dollar house next to me, and are in the process of putting up a two and a half million dollar home. Okay, we need a little bit more of a mix if we are going to do residential along there. So, thank you. Just a few comments on there. Overall, again, great work. I really appreciate all the efforts that have gone into it. Thank you.

#### **Oral Comments Received**

**ATTACHMENT 03** 

Leah Giovanniello

317 Broadleaf Dr NE

**COMMENT 11** 

Thank you, Mayor, and the council for the opportunity to speak with you tonight and at the Planning Commission. I'm going to reread something that's already been submitted. And this was submitted by the Conservation and Sustainability Commission in a document prepared with them, along with Kirkland and Ellis law firm. This is a 10/22 document titled called "Trees in Vienna: A Review of Programs to Help Vienna preserve and manage its Tree Canopy." This was a recommendation they thought was so important, they wanted me to read it again tonight, and it follows. "Vienna's Code does not contain a requirement to undertake efforts to meet the tree canopy requirements through the preservation of existing trees. In Vienna, a developer or property owner is free to choose which, if any, trees to preserve, and which to cut down. By contrast, Fairfax County's tree ordinance requires, where feasible, that preservation of trees be the first option. Fairfax County's ordinance contains the following provision: "When existing trees meet standards of health, condition, and suitability, and when it is feasible to preserve those trees within the framework of permissible uses, densities, design standards, and construction practices, all efforts shall first be made to meet the tree canopy requirement through the preservation of trees before tree planting is allowed to meet any portion of the tree canopy requirement." And this is from Fairfax County Code of Ordinances, Section 12-2-2. The Conservation Committee thought it was important to restate their recommendation. Thank you.

# Sam Ressin 309 Ayito Rd SE COMMENT 12

Hello, Town Council. My name is Sam Ressin, and I live at 309 Ayito Road in the Town of Vienna. I'm looking for a place to live on my own in my hometown, but today I cannot afford that. Today, I speak to support more housing options in Vienna so that I and others can afford to stay in town. Will someone help me find something that I can afford? Vienna is where I grew up. It is where I went to elementary, middle, and high school. I'd like to stay if the town will have me. Yet I fear that won't be possible.

I looked at the proposed zoning map in hopes of seeing a diverse and abundant amount of housing options, like townhouses, duplexes, apartment buildings, and smaller starter single family homes. My heart sank when I saw that the overwhelming majority of residential space is reserved for large single-family homes, which require an income that I don't have and likely will not have for many years.

Town Council, can you please save some housing options for young people like me who are just starting out in our careers and lives? Can you let me stay in the town that I grew up in? I picture myself living in an apartment along Maple Avenue, living without a car and not contributing to traffic because I can walk and bike to stores around town. That won't be possible if residential, multiunit, and upper residential housing can only be built as permitted use in tiny squares of the zoning map and under height limits that are too restrictive, while leaving huge areas off limits to a healthy stock of housing diversity. Please don't restrict my freedom to live where I choose. Allowing for a diversity of housing options along core transportation arteries is good for the environment, good for the town, and good for young people like me. Don't worry if you think someone might not want to live above the grocery store or a commercial space. Just allow housing to be an option and let people decide to live there if they want. As my mom always says, "there is a lid for every pot."

I smile when I think of my Vienna memories. It is where I earned the Eagle Scout rank in Troop 152 with Councilman Springsteen's son, Timmy. It is also where I proudly sang in Madison's Choir with our Mayor Colbert's daughters. I've gone on a lot of adventures since graduating from Madison High School in 2016, but Vienna has remained my rock in times of change. I want the joys of a Vienna life to be available to all people. There's no good reason to limit diverse housing options to amounts too tiny to make a difference. Town Council, Vienna is my hometown. I'd like to stay if you'll have me. Thank you.

#### Linda Belk 401 Holloway Ct NE

Good evening. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Linda Belk, 401 Holloway Court, Northeast, and despite my young appearance, I've been a member of this community for more than half a century. Personally, I served on the board of our local civic association, NEVCA, for 20 years. None of you were on this council when Iwas awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award. As a matter of fact, my neighbor, Mr. Jim Martinelli, was our mayor when I began playing with neighborhood children in the parks in Vienna.

I'm up here tonight not to praise you for your work, but to find out what your intentions are with what remains of our original gift for public use forever, of the 16.7 acres known to most as Beulah Road Park, I respectfully request this answer in writing as soon as possible. To the point for tonight's public hearing, I object to the proposed zoning changes when it comes to the current zoning of the remaining eight acres of Beulah Road Park as residential RS-12.5. While this was the only zoning code available at the time our zoning code came into being, it begs the question as to why the proper zoning code of PR was not applied when this code became available. Again, your complete explanation in writing as soon as possible is requested. The photos that I'm presenting tonight are from our published town comprehensive plans regarding the land use color copied in here, for your record. The 1979 map adopted by Town Council clearly shows Beulah Road Park as Parks and Rec. The 1993 map clearly shows Beulah Road Park as Parks and Rec use.

This is not our first rodeo. NEVCA provided a resolution to Town Council in 2003, 20 years ago, to stop using Beulah Road Park as a public works dumping ground and restore it to its natural wooden character. The public hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals, in this room in 2004, had testimony from citizens regarding Beulah Road Park and their support of applying the proper zoning code of PR. Again, the citizens surrounding Beulah Road Park signed petitions, and I personally presented all 210 of them to you last year, requesting the park be properly zoned as such, and restoration processes initiated. What actions have you taken to work with the citizens to achieve this goal? In conclusion, I request the town of Vienna add what is left of Beulah Road Park under the park zoning code. I suggest also letting citizens provide inputs for PR for Parks and Recreation or PC - Park Conservation Zoning codes. Thank you very much.

Sandy Shin 511 Kibler Cir SW

**COMMENT 14** 

Hi, I'm Sandy Shin. I live at 511 Kibler Circle Southwest, and I've lived here since 1995. I'm saddened by the loss of the tree canopy, which we heard about in a previous Town Council meeting. The 13% loss in tree canopy from a ten-year period ending in 2021.So I'm sure we've actually lost more than that because there's active, as everyone knows, there's active tear downs and new houses being built all over the town.

So, I'm not sure if there is a place in this code for this kind of thing, but you have lot coverage. A builder is only allowed to cover a certain percentage of the lot. The remaining percent is what should be holding the trees, and there should be some incentive for builders to preserve some of the existing trees where possible. Obviously, if they're making a bear house over a previously small house, they might need to take down some trees, additional trees. But I live near Parkwood, and just saw a tremendous number of trees torn down unnecessarily.

So, I know there was an ordinance proposed in a previous meeting, but I just don't want to see that go follow. I mean, if you're considering zoning, it's time important because the trees are being taken down every week. I think that's all. Thank you.