

From: Reed and Joli Martic [mailto:rjmartic@frontier.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2016 6:01 PM
To: PCD <pcd@bainbridgewa.gov>
Subject: Feedback: Proposed Madrona School Relocation

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing to express my concern with and disapproval of the proposed relocation of Madrona School to the NE Madison Ave/Valley Rd area.

As relative newcomers to the island and residents of Windsong Loop, my wife and I chose the lot and home we own based on a number of assumptions. First and foremost, we were drawn to the wonderfully rural qualities of the converted farmland that makes up the Windsong neighborhood. It is quiet, dark (at night), and very centrally located despite its rural nature.

The following issues DEEPLY concern us regarding the proposed Madrona relocation:

1. **TRAFFIC:** The city-ordained traffic study, for some reason, only focused on the NE Madison/Valley Rd intersection – likely because it is the nearest intersection to the proposed school property. What the study does not take into account however is how the school, with no bus service and relying entirely on parental transportation, will affect the already high volume of traffic on NE Madison Ave. It is well known as a thoroughfare for those wishing to avoid our daily Day Rd/305 traffic debacles, which already results in higher volumes, impatient speeders, and generally less safe conditions at the end of Windsong. What will adding some 60-120 (estimated) extra cars do this mess twice per day? As for 305/Sportsman Club, it already takes 3-4 light cycles to cross the intersection coming down from our area in the morning between 7:40-8:40. What will happen when a new crop of impatient drivers is added to the mix? Finally, has anyone considered the newly-approved retail/residential development planned for Rolling Bay? That's more Winslow-bound traffic every day, folks.
2. **KIDS AND THE BUS:** Windsong Loop's bus stop for school children (who come from Windsong AND both directions and both sides of NE Madison incidentally) is DIRECTLY across the street from the proposed entrance to Madrona School. So needless to say, four major bus pickups/drop offs would most definitely be affected by the increased traffic. This scares us, as our kids do not have access to safe sidewalks, and will be subjected to that many more impatient drivers.
3. **AUDITORIUM:** Let's review the proposal of a 400 person event center and the added mess that would bring to simply getting in and out of the neighborhood at times. I certainly don't look forward to potentially having to post NO PARKING signs around our neighborhood. Yes, the school says they will work with their families on this but come on, we may new to Bainbridge, but we know the power of entitlement around here. Parking is where you say it is, and not determined by some silly sign. Furthermore, 400 seats + need to fundraise? Those are great ingredients for event space rentals! Despite promises, who is to say the space won't be rented out to outside users, and the "overflow parking" on the field lit up by rental light tower generators? No thanks...

4. Did I say **DROP OFF/PICK UP?**: Wilkes Elementary is one mile from us, and is a great school that our daughter currently attends. They have around 400 students, full bus service, and their drop off/pick up is a TRAINWRECK. I would guess that the Wilkes Principal spends way too much of her time managing this process there, at a space that is purportedly built to accommodate traffic volumes of that nature. True, Madrona's student body is currently less than half that size, but we see NO accommodations for the process of drop off/pick up in this proposal. It seems to me that trying to walk or drive onto NE Madison during these times will be akin to playing the popular 80's video game "Frogger."

In short, while we have much more feedback to offer, it seems that some of our neighbors have offered it already, so I won't repeat it here. What I hope you do see however is that this proposal, however noble in offering a new space for what seems to be a great school, is INHERENTLY FLAWED, and WRONG for the NE Madison/Valley/Rolling Bay area. I would be happy to discuss further in a (needed) second public meeting, and look forward to hearing that COBI is taking this neighborhood feedback seriously. Thank you very much for allowing the affected citizens to voice their concerns.

Sincerely,

Reed Martic
Windsong Loop