

Great Seneca Science Corridor Minor Master Plan Amendment hearing  
Testimony from Donna Baron  
Date: October 19, 2021

In one of your documents, you mentioned “the area has no cohesive organizing principal”. I would submit that the same point could be made for the entire county. The standard procedure is to give the developer the go-ahead to jam in lots of buildings cheek to jowl regardless of whether it is housing or commercial space with little regard for the aesthetics or connectivity.

Looking ahead, Belward Farm is just about your last chance to do something different and to make a difference. It is a beautiful Civil War-era property. Why not make it the cohesive organizing property for the entire county...the piece de resistance...with a world-class Health, Wellness and Research Center. A peaceful area with exceptional architecture, serene landscaping and open spaces for visitors and patients to walk and heal.

Please remove the speedway crossing the farm, opting instead for a safer roadway to connect the different areas of the farm. The speedway does not belong in a place of healing. Plan instead for those who would occupy and use the property. In addition to Johns Hopkins' current project, plan for an orthopedic rehab center, a memory care facility, sports medicine, hospice care, imaging and radiology, and a health and wellness research center.

Dare to be bold. Make a difference. And whatever you do, PLEASE DO NOT MESS IT UP LIKE YOU DID WITH THE EASTERN 35 ACRES OF THE FARM.

Please visit the beautiful Belward Farm before you make any lasting decisions.

Thank you.

(Photo by Donna Baron)

