

January 23, 2022

Dear Council Members,

My name is Adela Kalibova and I live with my husband and two preschool kids at Hillandale Rd, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Please let me express my deepest concerns about the plan to build a dog park in Norwood Park. My family considers Norwood Park our backyard. It was the most wonderful thing to have around when the pandemic started and the playgrounds were closed due to COVID danger. My son has mastered his walking abilities in Norwood Park being only 16 months at that time and my older daughter just simply loved exploring everything this beautiful place had to offer.

Both of my kids still attend the Norwood Park Preschool in Norwood Park. One of the reasons we have decided for NPP was its location in the middle of this park and the perks that come with that. We go there almost every day - using both of the playgrounds or just wandering there. We have celebrated birthdays there and have wonderful memories.

The dog park would change the environment indefinitely and I would be really concerned about the safety of the children with the dog park so close to the children's playgrounds. I also believe that the universal trend in developed countries is to preserve such a gem the community has in Norwood Park avoiding artificial surfaces over natural ones.

I am sure you are aware of all the arguments against this particular dog park. I cannot quite understand the decision of the Planning Board to go on with the plan knowing that the opposition towards this dog park was quite large.

I believe the right thing is to look for another suitable location and build the park there. I strongly support Marc Elrich's recommendation stating: "A two year delay in funding for a dog park at Norwood Park is recommended until alternative locations and community concerns can be considered. \$500,000M-NCPPC. Bonds shift from FY23 to FY 25."

Please help us preserve Norwood Park and stop the construction of this dog park.

Thank you. Respectfully.

Adela Kalibova