

Hello, my name is Donna Baron and I am the Coordinator of the Gaithersburg - North Potomac - Rockville Coalition and Scale-it-back.com.

I have spoken to you in opposition to the overwhelming density proposed in the Gaithersburg West Master Plan and I have the same concerns about the White Flint Sector Plan.

- You have already approved over 68,000 jobs and 16,000 residences in Germantown without any staging requirements.
- The Gaithersburg West master plan proposes 40,000 additional jobs and 5,700 additional residences which will require 6- and 8- lane highways with multilevel highway interchanges adjacent to residential neighborhoods.
- The White Flint plan proposes over 18,000 jobs and 9,800 residences for a grand total, in just these three areas, of over 125,000 new jobs which will require the construction of almost 42 million square feet of commercial space and over 30,000 new residences.

Montgomery County becomes more unpleasant each day, yet you seem unfazed by the adverse effects this developer 'feeding frenzy' is having on the quality of life for the current residents.

- The beltway is very often a slow-moving parking lot.
- I-270 approaches gridlock during rush hour.
- The secondary roads are jammed at all times of the day.
- The kids are going to school in trailers.
- The green space, the streams and the wetlands are being ignored or paved over.
- The Metro is certainly not the pleasant ride it used to be. The platforms are full. The trains are full. The trains are old and break down on a regular basis but there is no money for new trains or for a massive overhaul of the system.

The state has said there is no money for the extraordinary amount of infrastructure improvements required to support the level of development that is being proposed. And yet the zoning continues to favor and encourage the developers.

As I recall, some of you ran for office on the "End Gridlock" platform. It would seem that we are heading in the opposite direction at an alarming pace.

It is too late to save Germantown. But it is not too late to reconsider and scale back the density in Gaithersburg West and White Flint. As I have said before, the residents should not be collateral damage in the race for revenue. Scale it back.