



May 5, 2016

Dear GDS Friends and Neighbors,

I am writing with news about GDS's PUD application.

Last week, our zoning counsel heard from the Office of Planning that a member of the community had contacted them, raising concerns about our interpretation of the Zoning Regulations, in relation to the density of the proposed new LMS building. I am told that the community member also expressed the same concern to the Office of the Zoning Administrator. Unfortunately, the Zoning Administrator made an informal ruling that constrains GDS's existing application.

Our attorney has counseled us that rather than spend the time and money to contest the Zoning Administrator's informal ruling, it would be more prudent to withdraw the PUD application, and re-file a new one under the new Zoning Regulations, which take effect September 2016. Under the new regulations, GDS's application will no longer be subject to the possible constraints raised by the community member. While we may have prevailed at the Zoning Commission with our current PUD application, this informal ruling by the Zoning Administrator would have made us vulnerable to an appeal and cost us additional time and money.

Though the details of the project are not changing, we intend to file our new PUD application on June 1, which is the first day that projects may be filed under the new zoning regulations, and we anticipate a September set down at the Zoning Commission.

While frustrated by this most recent delay, we are committed to moving forward. I continue to be excited about the future of GDS in Tenleytown, and about a re-vitalized Wisconsin Avenue.

All my best,

Russell Shaw
Head of School