STATEMENT OF JACK MITCHELL, PRESIDENT OF THE WESTBRIAR CIVIC ASSOCIATION

I AM JACK MITCHELL, PRESIDENT OF THE WESTBRIAR CIVIC ASSOCIATION. THIS ASSOCIATION CONSISTS OF 500 HOMES CLOSE IN TO THE SOUTH SIDE OF TYSONS CORNER. WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROPOSED HUGE DEVELOPMENT AT TYSONS. OTHER PEOPLE HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR THOUGHTS ON THE EFFECTS ON TRANSPORTATION. I AM GOING TO SPEAK ABOUT THE EFFECTS ON OUR ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS. TALL BUILDINGS WITH THEIR HIGH DENSITY HAVE A DESTRUCTIVE IMPACT ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE ON SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS. WE HAVE SEEN THE EXTREMELY

HARMFUL IMPACT ON THE SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS IN ARLINGTON AND BETHESDA. THEREFORE, IF MORE INTENSE DEVELOPMENT IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN AT THE TYSONS WEST AND TYSONS CENTRAL 7 METRO STATIONS, IT SHOULD BE DONE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF ROUTE 7, SO AS TO LESSEN THE IMPACT ON THE RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS TO THE SOUTH. BUILDING HEIGHTS SOUTH OF ROUTE 7 SHOULD BE NO GREATER THAN THOSE PRESCRIBED AS A MAXIMUM IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AS AMENDED THROUGH JUNE 6 1995. THE OLD COURTHOUSE SPRING BRANCH EQC SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AS A GREEN BUFFER BETWEEN TYSONS CORNER AND ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS. THE CURRENT PRIVATE ROAD

THAT HAS ACCESS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOODS TO THE WEST (ASHGROVE LANE) SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE BLOCKED OFF, AS APPROVED, SO AS NOT TO PROVIDE ACCESS ACROSS THE EQC FROM ROUTE 7. NEARBY NEIGHBORHOODS SHOULD BE PROTECTED FROM METRO RELATED PARKING. OF SPECIFIC INTEREST IS THE UNDEVELOPED STRIP OF LAND NORTH FROM OLD COURTHOUSE ROAD TO THE PARKLAND. IT SHOULD REMAIN UNDEVELOPED AS PART OF THE BUFFER BETWEEN THE TOWN OF VIENNA AND TYSONS CORNER.

WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE PLAN TO INSTALL THE <u>ELEVATED</u> RAIL THROUGH TYSONS. THE ADJANT RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS WOULD BE

NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY ITS NOISE, DIRT, AND UGLY APPEARANCE. WHILE THE OVERHEAD WOULD SERVE TO IMPAIR DEVELOPMENT, BY CONTRAST, A TUNNEL WOULD ENHANCE DEVELOPMENT AND BE A VITAL FORCE FOR ITS RATIONAL GROWTH. IT IS REALLY INCONCEIVABLE THAT BALLSTON AND ROSSLYN ARE UNDERGROUND AND THE CURRENT PLAN FOR TYSONS CALLS FOR AN ELEVATED STRUCTURE. CHAIRMAN OBERSTAR OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE HAS INDICATED SUPPORT FOR THE TUNNEL.