

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
COMMITTEE**

**23-0371  
PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** GERALD SCHMITT <unglegl@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 2:06 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council); Riley, Meredith K. (City Council); DENISE BLACKWELL  
**Subject:** BC BILL 23 0371 HOMELAND AVE ZONING CHANGE

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HISTORIC ST. MARYS CEMETERY IS LOCATED ON HOMELAND AVE OVER 4000 PEOPLE ARE BURIED THERE INCLUDING A CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND THE ORIGINAL ORIOLES OWNER. THE PROPERTY ON WHICH THE ZONING CHANGE IS REQUESTED WAS OWNED BY ST. MARYS CHURCH AND CONSISTS OF THE ORIGINAL SCHOOL BUILDING ,A PARKING LOT PLUS VACANT LAND.. ST. MARYS OWNED THE LAND FROM 1849 UNTIL IT WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS. THE KNIGHTS ALLOWED NOTRE DAME TO USE THE LAND FOR PARKING (MOSTLY FOR SENIOR PROGRAMS ) .THE CEMETERY HAD A RIGHT A WAY FOR PARKING AND ENTRANCE FOR BURIALS. SEVERAL YEARS AGO THE KNIGHTS (FEW MEMBERS) SOLD THE PROPERTY TO NOTRE DAME WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WOULD BE USED FOR PARKING AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AND THE CEMETERY PARKING AND ENTRANCE WOULD CONTINUE. NOTRE DAME RENEGED ON THIS. PARKING IS IN SHORT SUPPLY WITH THESE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. THE PROPOSED CEMETERY ENTRANCE ON HOMELAND AVE.EAST OF SPRINGLAKE WAY IS NARROW AND DIFFICULT TO ENTER. THERE WILL BE A HARDSHIP FOR OLDER VISITORS TO THE CEMETERY. DO WE NEED A SENIOR CARE FACILITY WITH ALL THE NOISE AND TRAFFIC THIS OFFERS? I ASK THE COUNCIL TO REJECT THIS ZONING CHANGE. PARKING AND ENTRANCE TO THE CEMETERY SHOULD NOT BE ENDED ON THIS PROPERTY. I WOULD BE GLAD TO MEET WITH MR. CONWAY OR MS.MIDDLETON GREEN ON THE PROPERTY THANK YOU GERALD L. SCHMITT 410 435 7127

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** lynn877@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 11:03 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Bill No. 23-0371

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I oppose Bill No. 23-0371. Notre Dame of Maryland University brought the land from the Knights of Columbus and said it was to be used for excess parking. Notre Dame turned around and leased it to Brightwood. Notre Dame did not notify St. Mary's even though the plans showed Brightwood's facility right up against the cemetery. I found out about it thru Homeland HOA in August 2020. St. Mary's has a 15 foot right away. By May 2021, Notre Dame convinced the pastor of St. Mary's to give up the right away and Notre Dame is building new roads in the cemetery. I disagree with this. Parishioners were not notified. My husband is buried there and my plot is next to his. My daughter is extremely upset about this. Roads in the cemetery require tree removals. Most of this activity is in the older part of the cemetery and there are a lot of important people buried there. They are going to destroy a lot of trees building Brightwood's facility. Notre Dame is going to replace some trees but it take a long time to counteract the lost oxygen. 201 Homeland Avenue should be kept as a parking lot as originally stated. I know the building is old, I was the last class to graduate in 1952, and part of building was over 100 years old. It could get a Historical designation. St. Mary's should get there right away back and no new roads in the cemetery. I am a graduate of Notre Dame and am ashamed of how they acted.

Lynne Hardesty  
[lynn877@comcat.net](mailto:lynn877@comcat.net)  
409 Wodford Road 21212

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** mendozatime@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 18, 2023 10:08 PM  
**Cc:** rcb@jhmi.edu  
**Subject:** Important developments that will impact St. Mary's cemetery - City Council Committee hearing on Tuesday June 20 FW: my first stab at cemetery info  
**Attachments:** City Council hearing.JPG; 2021 - 2022 Pastoral Council Report.docx; St. Mary Cemetery GoogleMap1.png; St. Mary Cemetery GoogleMap2.png

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Dear Family and friends of St. Mary's and St. Mary's cemetery,

I'm writing to let you know that our cemetery as we know it may be in jeopardy and that you may wish to contact St. Mary's, Notre Dame of Maryland University (NDMU), the Archdiocese, and **for a very time-sensitive matter:** Baltimore City Councilman Mark Conway, and the Baltimore City Council Economic and Community Development Committee.

Here is information given to St. Mary's parishioners last fall. It was in an end of year report identifying Pastoral Council agenda items during the 2021 - 2022 year and was placed in the bulletin, perhaps late September (see attached). The report was an insert that appeared on the back side of the annual budget information:

*St. Mary Cemetery - With Archdiocesan participation, the Pastorate is in negotiations with Notre Dame of Maryland University (NDMU) and Brightview Senior Living Development concerning the inclusion of the entire parking lot in the parcel of land to become an independent and assisted living complex for seniors. Vehicular access to the cemetery would not be possible. The current proposal would have NDMU/Brightview construct a roadway from an existing cemetery gate on Homeland Avenue. The road would proceed up the hill where a roundabout would allow vehicles to turn around in order to exit the cemetery by the same road. There would also be space for about 20 cars to park. There would be no cost to St. Mary. NDMU would contribute to a perpetual care fund for the cemetery, also. To determine the best placement for the roadway a ground penetrating radar study was done. There may be an issue with the placement of at least one grave in relation to the proposed road.*

Since then there has been no further information to St. Mary's parishioners or cemetery plat-owners (Bob and I are owners and we have not received any information). Parishioners who live in Homeland were surprised when the development was discussed in a recent Homeland homeowners association meeting, which is one reason why there has been recent awareness of the issue. Apparently, there has been little to no coordination between the Homeland Association and St. Mary's but there is a proposed agreement between the Homeland Association and NDMU/Brightview, which is one of the bills going to the City Council Committee hearing on Tuesday (see below). There is no similar bill or agreement for St. Mary's that we know of, and passage of the "Homeland bill" (our term for simplicity) could permanently affect the outcome for our cemetery.

Upon contacting Baltimore City Councilman Mark Conway's office, one parishioner received the following information as a follow-up from Mr. Conway's staff:

*I reached out this morning to Notre Dame's Associate VP of External Affairs for more information on this issue. The following is his response regarding access to loved ones in the cemetery, both during and after construction, and the ongoing communications between Brightview, NDMU, and the parish:*

*"NDMU & BSLD have been working with representatives of St Mary's Parish/the Archdiocese throughout 2021 and 2022. Over that period we have met onsite, held conference calls, and explored many scenarios as we worked to find a solution that met all three parties (Cemetery, Brightview, NDMU) goals.*

*As the project moves forward over the next couple of years, the existing NDMU parking lot used to access the cemetery will eventually cease, likely in late 2024. However, NDMU and Brightview Senior Living Development have an agreement in principal with St. Mary's regarding constructing a new parking lot inside of St. Mary's Cemetery further east on Homeland Ave where an existing curb cut and gate already exist [the former "caretaker's house" driveway; see attachments]. This would also include the construction of a new roadway to allow for easy access throughout the property and turnaround.*

*We are planning to finalize the documentation of this plan, obligations of each party, timing, etc. just after we have secured zoning entitlements for the project. The timing of the construction of these modifications is anticipated to be just prior to construction of the Brightview project, in order to make sure that access is maintained to the cemetery before, during, and after the construction of the Brightview community."*

See attached photos of the proposed parking lot site.

**Bottom line: We will lose the use of the Knights of Columbus parking area, but MORE IMPORTANTLY, the current road access to the cemetery (the KoC/"west"/top-of-hill edge of the cemetery), and the cemetery will be marred by a roadway and a steep uphill walk for any who park in the proposed lot in the "east"/bottom-of-the-hill.** There is a question about whether St. Mary's still has an easement or an "adverse possession"/common use use of the roadway at that end (15 feet into the current parking area; the method we currently use for hearses and mourners/visitors to access the cemetery). If preserved, our current access from the KoC side of the cemetery easily leads to an existing old road that goes down the hill to a NDMU parking lot allowing easy egress via NDMU to Homeland Ave. And there may be additional alternatives.

Bob and I (and many others, now that the issue is being discussed among parishioners) are concerned about the lack of engagement with St. Mary's parishioners and, at the very least, with cemetery plot-owners and families with relatives interred in the cemetery, on these developments and the lack of informational follow-up since the 2021-2022 report above. We think it's important to let you know about this in case you would like to contact St. Mary's, the Archdiocese, NDMU, **Mr. Conway, and the Baltimore City Council** (see below) (highlighted because of the extremely short response time).

Bob and I have many family members interred in the cemetery, as do many of you. Someday, Bob and I will be there as well. Over the years, we have spent many hours in quiet reflection in its beautiful pastoral setting with history and family all around us and nothing else to see or distract us except the trees and grass and the peace that goes with it. That is why we bought our plots there. With the proposed plan, we will see asphalt at the bottom of the steep side of the cemetery hill and an asphalt or gravel road cutting through and looping through our tiny cemetery.

We are not sure if there is anything to be done at this point but we think parishioners, families with relatives in the cemetery, and plot-owners ought to be made aware and at least have an opportunity to express concerns or other solutions. In particular we can at least make our concerns known to those who have some control on the outcome.

**On Tuesday, June 20 (this Tuesday)**, there is a Baltimore City Council Economic and Community Development Committee hearing at 2:05pm at City Hall (Clarence "Du" Burns Chamber, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor) at which two zoning bills will be discussed, both regarding the NDMU/Brightview sale. See the attached photo. There are also web and phone-in options available, accessible at <https://baltimore.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Jess spoke to someone in Mr. Conway's office who

let her know that we can sign up to present oral comments whether in-person, on-line or by phone. Written comments are also accepted and should be emailed to [matthew.peters@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:matthew.peters@baltimorecity.gov); Mr. Peters will assemble all emails received by about **9-10 a.m. on Tuesday** and will place them in the packet distributed to Council members for the meeting and for the record. In the subject line, specify "City Council Bill No. 23-0371".

**A good outcome for us on Tuesday would be for the Committee to decide to require amendments to the bill(s) or to at least postpone a final decision on the bill(s) until the St. Mary community can be heard and possibly be accommodated.** Currently, the Committee (and possibly Mr. Conway) is not aware of any St. Mary's opposition to the bills on Tuesday's agenda. Your voices are necessary NOW as a first step to being heard. Even a quick email would be helpful in making our point to the City Council: that we are out here, and that we have concerns and many more questions than answers.

FYI, Jess contacted Fr. Jojo and the St. Mary's St. Pius X Pastoral Office last week with our concerns, and they are aware of our intention to write to all of you. Please feel pass on to anyone you know who may be interested.

We have used various email distribution lists for this message. We have Bcc'd all of you in respect for any objections someone may have on being included on a widely distributed list. Apologies if you received duplicates. The distribution list for this "Bob and Jess" email is BY NO MEANS a full list of interested parties, so PLEASE distribute widely!

And if you wish not to receive further emails from us on this matter, please let us know.

Thanks very much,  
Jess (Mendoza) and Bob (Bollinger)

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

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**From:** Carol Green <cmgreen812@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 8:38 AM  
**To:** Conway, Mark (City Council)  
**Cc:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Bill No. 23-0371

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Good morning Mr. Conway,

This email relates to the proposed development of a senior living facility on the Notre Dame of Maryland University (NDMU) campus facing Homeland Avenue. I am not commenting on the proposed facility, instead, I am requesting a postponement to the zoning change(s) needed to proceed. I am an active member of the St. Mary of the Assumption Parish; our cemetery will be the location of my final resting place. The reason to request postponement of the zoning change decision is to afford time to inform other parishioners and family members of the proposed changes to the cemetery. The Homeland Community has held at least one meeting to alert community members and receive their input concerning proposed construction. A similar meeting has not been held with St. Mary parishioners. It seems a reasonable request to ask for time to alert parishioners and families, and get their feedback.

Carol Green  
410-245-9395

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Mary Louise Petrik <mlpetrik@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 12:16 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** petrikj@comcast.net  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No.23-0371

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I am opposed to the plan for the parking lot which is adjacent to the St. Mary of the Assumption cemetery.



## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** JOHN PETRIK <petrikj@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No.23-0371

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I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed construction adjacent to St. Mary's Cemetery. It would have a strongly adverse impact on the neighborhood, and would effectively deny access to the cemetery, an access that was promised when the property was sold, and that has been exercised continuously for more than a hundred years.

Respectfully,

--John Petrik

331 Saint Dunstan's Road  
Baltimore, MD 21212

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** mendozetime@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 1:40 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council); Conway, Mark (City Council); Pontious, David (City Council)  
**Cc:** 'Rev. Jojo Opalda'; 'Perdue, Sabrina'; Bollinr1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Baltimore City Council Bill No. 23-0371 - Community member objection

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Dear Members of the Baltimore City Council Economic and Community Development Committee,

We are members of St. Mary of the Assumption parish and plot-holders in St. Mary's cemetery, and **we request that you postpone your decision on Baltimore City Council Bill No. 23-0371 and possibly the related bill on the June 20, 2023 meeting agenda.** As you know, St. Mary's cemetery abuts the Notre Dame of Maryland University (NDMU) property whose lease to Brightview Senior Living Development, LLC. (BSLD) is the matter you are discussing at Tuesday's meeting. From our point of view, the current proposed ceding our (St. Mary's) current, decades-old, right-of-way at the NDMU-cemetery property line would be severely detrimental to the expectations of cemetery plot-owners, to the cemetery's historical significance, to the general environment of the area, and to the potential devaluing of St. Mary's cemetery.

St. Mary's cemetery is a small cemetery on a hillside that slopes gently along the west end of the property (the NDMU-BSLD end) then becomes a steeper hillside as one goes eastward (the bottom of which is the proposed new cemetery parking lot). St. Mary's cemetery is considered a historical place, as the final resting place of former Baltimore City Councilmen, Baltimore City Commissioners, a Maryland Governor, the original owner of the Baltimore Orioles, the namesakes of several streets in Govans, and other Baltimore community and cultural leaders. Families including ourselves have spent many hours in quiet reflection in its beautiful pastoral setting with history and family all around us and nothing else to see or distract us except the trees and grass and the peace that goes with it. That is why we bought our plots there. With the proposed plan, we will see an asphalt parking lot at the bottom of the steep side of the cemetery hill, an asphalt or gravel road cutting through and looping through our tiny cemetery, and potentially cars parked in the roadway for visitors who cannot make the walk up the steep hill from the parking lot.

While we understand that NDMU, BSLD and representatives of St Mary's Parish/the Archdiocese of Baltimore have had discussions on the matter, we would like to stipulate that cemetery plot-owners, families with relatives interred in the cemetery, and parishioners (except, possibly, Pastoral Council members), were not involved in any discussions, were not asked for feedback or even formally notified of the significant and disturbing changes should the current proposal go through as written. Our specific concerns are:

- The renegeing on the rights of plot-owners (current and past) who purchased plots with the understanding of the pastoral setting of their property. For example, if preserved, St. Mary's current right-of-way access from the NDMU side of the cemetery easily leads to an existing old road that goes down the south hill to a NDMU parking lot allowing easy egress via NDMU to Homeland Ave; this option would preclude the need for a roadway looping through the cemetery.
- Apparently, there is a possible issue with the placement of at least one grave in relation to the proposed road. If so, what are the arrangements and time-factor for the lengthy process of obtaining approvals to move the grave?

- What are the arrangements/compensation for the loss of grave sites that would otherwise be available for sale, thereby contributing to the perpetual maintenance of the cemetery.
- What will happen to the old-growth trees that now line the NMDU side of the cemetery and several younger trees that were donated by Parish families?
- What is the potential impact of a west-side, bottom of hill, parking lot the Stoney Run stream that runs along the west end of the cemetery. The proposed parking lot site has flooded several times in past years. Could the lot threaten Baltimore City's investment in Stoney Run's stream restoration efforts?

NDMU and BSLD had a meeting with the Homeland community, showing their plans and getting Homeland's input. One probable outcome of that meeting is one of the Tuesday bills' amendments that outlines a number of 'amenities' for Homeland, including a back road for sanitation trucks to enter the BSLD complex. No such meeting has been held with the St. Mary's community, and no similar opportunity for input. If a back road for sanitation trucks can be planned for Homeland, surely a similar accommodation can be made for the right-of-way noted in the first bullet point above. The cemetery is not in Homeland and does not benefit from any concessions made for Homeland.

We urge you to consider our objections and to at least allow time for true engagement with cemetery stake-holders **by postponing your decision on these bills.**

Thank you,  
Jessica Mendoza and Robert C. Bollinger, Jr

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Kathy Worthington <kathy.r.worthington@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 1:49 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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To whom it may concern,

I respectfully request postponement of decision on City Council Bill No. 23-0371. While I support the development of a Brightview Senior Living Facility, I respectfully request more time to consider how this development will affect the St. Mary's Cemetery. As long-time St. Mary's parishioner and Govan's resident, I have my beloved mother, father and sister buried at St. Mary's Cemetery. I am concerned about how the proposed easement for a roadway through the cemetery will affect those interned there. Unfortunately, there has been little to no communication from the Archdiocese or St. Marys on this development, and I was only made aware of the bill at 1:30 pm EST today (June 19). More time is needed for families to adequately review the proposed plans and make an informed decision.

Thank you for considering this request. My contact information is below.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Worthington Wilson

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Kathleen R. Worthington Wilson  
240-417-6520 (cell)  
[kathy.r.worthington@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.r.worthington@gmail.com)

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

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**From:** Margaret Prado <mag1159@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 2:07 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** St. Mary Cemetery proposal

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While a small parish cemetery may seem an inconvenient afterthought for Brightview developers, it is an emotional and personal place for those of us with loved ones buried there or others who have purchased plots.

Out of respect, the parties should delay final plan approvals until the community is engaged and able to provide input into decisions that will affect them.

Respectfully,  
Maggie Worthington Prado  
Former parishioner with 3 family members buried in the cemetery

Sent from my iPhone

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Joan Worthington <joan.m.worthington@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 2:19 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Dear Mr. Peters,

I respectfully request postponement of decision on City Council Bill No. 23-0371. While I support the development of a Brightview Senior Living Facility, I respectfully request more time to consider how this development will affect St. Mary's Cemetery.

I have my beloved mother, father and sister buried at St. Mary's Cemetery. I am concerned about how the proposed easement for a roadway through the cemetery will affect those interned there. Unfortunately, there has been no communication from the Archdiocese, Notre Dame of Maryland Univ, or St. Marys on this development. Time is required for families impacted to adequately review the proposed plans and make an informed decision.

Thank you for considering this request.

Joan M. Worthington  
c: 443-421-5738

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** jharding21212@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 2:54 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** RE: City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Dear Council Member Mr. Conway,

I am writing in regard to vehicular access to St. Mary's Cemetery. It is my understanding that under the current plan between Notre Dame of Maryland University and Brightview Senior Living Development project, access to the cemetery from the parking lot on the west side of the cemetery will no longer be available.

In my opinion the plan to provide an new access road and turn around at the bottom of the hill, at the east end of the cemetery, is grossly inadequate. It does not provide enough parking space for funerals and will be a severe handicap to anyone visiting western section of the cemetery. I chose a plot at the west, at the top of the steep hill, specifically because of the previous agreement to allow easy, handicap access to the cemetery from old Knights of Columbus parking lot.

As a cemetery plot owner and Baltimore City resident, I ask that a final decision on this bill be postponed until concerns of the cemetery stake holders are directly heard, addressed, and accommodated.

Sincerely,

Judith Harding  
410-433-8663  
[jharding21212@aol.com](mailto:jharding21212@aol.com)

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** bendannart1859 <bendannart1859@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 3:48 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Dear Mr Peters

This City Council Bill No. 23-0371 has many moving parts to it by a variety of affected groups and its vote should at least be **postponed**. I was a member of St Mary's for 30 years. My late, dear wife is interred there, and my name is already on the headstone. This project, as currently construed, will change the entire character of this historic cemetery. There is much familiarity, serenity and past in those grounds which have been a source of comfort and peace to me and others for generations. In addition, putting (limited) parking at the bottom of the hill and building an access road and circle through the cemetery will alter its existing character in perpetuity.

I feel that the parish has been less than transparent about these plans, particularly as they pertain to lot owners such as myself. Let's be fair: POSTPONE THE FINAL VOTE UNTIL WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION AS TO THE IMPACT ON THE CEMETERY.!

Lance Bendann  
305 Tunbridge Rd  
Baltimore, MD 21212



## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Richard Chaisson <rchaiss@jhmi.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 3:51 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** St. Mary's Cemetery Access, Homeland Ave.

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Dear Mr. Peters,

I am writing to object to the proposal of Notre Dame University and Brightview Senior Living to eliminate public access to the west side of St. Mary's Cemetery on Homeland Ave. I am a three-and-one-half decade resident of Homeland and the owner, with my wife, of two burial plots in St. Mary's Cemetery, and I am alarmed by the plan to block access to the cemetery by this development. The character and sylvan nature of the area will already be profoundly disrupted by the proposed construction of multiple housing units, but the removal of access to the cemetery will deny access to the public for burials, memorial services, and visitations. The proposal to construct a small driveway on the eastern edge of the cemetery will prove completely inadequate for access for funeral processions, handicapped individuals, and groups. In addition, the area for the proposed driveway is in a floodplain and may end up being inaccessible following heavy rains and other storms. Even with this driveway, handicapped individuals would have an extremely difficult time navigating the steep hill to visit graves the majority of graves in the upper part of the cemetery. Elimination of the western entrance to the cemetery will reduce access to an historic and actively used property, infringe on the rights of people with disabilities, and further disturb the peaceful character of the area. I urge the City to disapprove this proposal and ensure future access to St. Mary's Cemetery.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Chaisson, MD  
Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology, and International Health  
Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Tuberculosis Research  
Principal Investigator, Johns Hopkins Center for AIDS Research  
1550 Orleans St., 1M.08  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
+1-410-955-1755 (o)  
<http://www.hopkinscfar.org/>

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

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**From:** Rebecca Egan <r\_egan\_1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 4:03 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill 23-0371

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Mr. Peters,

It has been brought to my attention that zoning decisions will be coming before the City Council tomorrow regarding Brightview building on the lot previously owned by Notre Dame University on Homeland Avenue 21212. I was informed that the proposed zoning would eliminate all of the current parking spots for St. Mary's Cemetery and that creating a road through the cemetery is being considered. For generations St. Mary's Cemetery has provided a peaceful resting place for members of the St. Mary's parish and the surrounding neighborhood. I just buried my father there in July - among his fellow neighbors and parishioners. The thought of the cemetery being divided - and burial plots being moved, I would assume - is upsetting, particularly since those most affected by such change have not been given a voice. I write to request Councilman Conway to postpone the zoning decisions on City Council Bill 23-0371 until St. Mary's parishioners and family members of those who are buried at the cemetery are contacted and invited to join in the discussion of Brightview's plans.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Egan Hogg

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** sbeese <sbeese@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 4:07 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No 23-0371

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Mr Peter's, I just received an email concerning St. Mary Cemetry on Homeland. My family is buried in this cemetery and I will also be buried in the family plot. This is the first I am hearing about the plans for a roadway through the cemetery and losing all the parking spaces. Besides there being no room for a roadway without disturbing graveside, where are people supposed to park when they are burying their relatives. Please postpone any advancement on this proceeding until people can be well informed of what is being proposed and the consequences it is going to cause.

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** Jeanette Partlow <jeanette.glose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 4:27 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please preserve 15 ft. driveway access to St. Mary's Cemetery

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Jeanette Partlow  
410-935-0473

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jeanette Partlow <jeanette.glose@gmail.com>  
**Date:** June 19, 2023 at 4:08:07 PM EDT  
**To:** marthew.peters@baltimorecity.gov  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please preserve 15 ft. driveway access to St. Mary's Cemetery

Hello City Council,

I am writing to respectfully request for a 15  
Foot driveway access to be maintained at the eastern edge of the Knights of Columbus  
parking lot property (that is under redevelopment and negotiation between Brightview  
developers and NDMU).

I am an adjacent "landowner" as the owner of two plots in the cemetery and my  
beloved parents are buried there, as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeanette Glose  
204 Southway  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
St. Mary's parishioner  
St. Mary's cemetery plot owner

Jeanette Glose Partlow

410-935-0473

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** jeromejegan3@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 4:29 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** Henry, Bill (email); Fred Rasmussen; drodricks@baltsun.com  
**Subject:** Re: City Council Bill 23-0371

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Mr Peters,

To echo my sister, this is a historic property established around 1874, and the minimal access needed by the parish and its families deserves respect. This is an active cemetery used by the diverse families of the present day.

Access to parking as I understand it was by a gentleman's agreement that spans 5 or 6 decades following the sale of the school to the Knights of Columbus . The property itself was a gift by an Irish organization to an orphanage in the 1800's, people who never imagined its commercial development.

I am cc'ing Bill Henry, as he is well aware of this property and it's legacy for the greater Govans communities.

Please delay the vote. Thank you.

Jerry Egan

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

On Monday, June 19, 2023, 4:03 PM, Rebecca Egan <r\_egan\_1@yahoo.com> wrote:

Mr. Peters,

It has been brought to my attention that zoning decisions will be coming before the City Council tomorrow regarding Brightview building on the lot previously owned by Notre Dame University on Homeland Avenue 21212. I was informed that the proposed zoning would eliminate all of the current parking spots for St. Mary's Cemetery and that creating a road through the cemetery is being considered. For generations St. Mary's Cemetery has provided a peaceful resting place for members of the St. Mary's parish and the surrounding neighborhood. I just buried my father there in July - among his fellow neighbors and parishioners. The thought of the cemetery being divided - and burial plots being moved, I would assume - is upsetting, particularly since those most affected by such change have not been given a voice. I write to request Councilman Conway to postpone the zoning decisions on City Council Bill 23-0371 until St. Mary's parishioners and family members of those who are buried at the cemetery are contacted and invited to join in the discussion of Brightview's plans.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Egan Hogg

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Meg Egan Auderset <meg.egan.auderset@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 4:32 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill 23-0371

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Dear Mr. Peters,

I understand the Baltimore City Council will take up zoning considerations tomorrow pertaining to the Brightview building on Homeland Avenue, which sits on a lot previously owned by Notre Dame of Maryland University.

I'm told the proposed zoning change would eliminate all parking spots for the adjacent St. Mary's Cemetery. I also understand a road has been proposed that would cut the cemetery in two.

The issues the Council will consider deeply affect me and my family. I grew up in St. Mary's Parish and buried my Dad in the cemetery less than a year ago. It's where my Mom—who is 85—intends to be buried. Walking around those grounds is like visiting the old neighborhood—so many people from St. Mary's are there. So many families, going back generations.

None of the people most affected by the proposed changes has been consulted. That's wrong. Particularly given what's at stake.

I request that Councilman Conway postpone the zoning decisions on City Council Bill 23-0371 until St. Mary's parishioners and the family members of those buried in the grounds are contacted and invited to join in the discussion of Brightview's plans.

Thank you.

Margaret Egan Auderset



## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Mary Rogers <maryjorogers@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 7:21 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill 23-0371

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Councilman Peters,

I respectfully ask for a postponement of the hearing regarding the above referenced bill. My parents are buried in St. Mary's cemetery. As I have a very emotional interest in this matter, I would like to be present for this hearing. I have just learned of this matter this evening.

Sincerely,  
Mary Jo Rogers

Sent from my iPhone

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** Paula Murphy <murphpgm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 7:47 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** St Mary's Cemetary -City Council Bill 23-0371

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Mr. Peters,

It has been brought to my attention that zoning decisions will be coming before the City Council tomorrow regarding Brightview building on the lot previously owned by Notre Dame University on Homeland Avenue 21212. I was informed that the proposed zoning would eliminate all of the current parking spots for St. Mary's Cemetery and that creating a road through the cemetery is being considered.

For generations St. Mary's Cemetery has provided a peaceful resting place for members of the St. Mary's parish and the surrounding neighborhood. Both my husband and son are buried there. The thought of the cemetery being divided - and burial plots being moved, I would assume - is upsetting, particularly since those most affected by such change have not been given appropriate information regarding the plans, or a voice.

I write to request that Councilman Conway postpone the zoning decisions on City Council Bill 23-0371 until St. Mary's parishioners and family members of those who are buried at the cemetery are contacted and invited to join in the discussion of Brightview's plans.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Paula Murphy

410-532-9492

[murphpgm@gmail.com](mailto:murphpgm@gmail.com)

Julia murphy

[murphjul@gmail.com](mailto:murphjul@gmail.com)

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** cgerczak86@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 8:37 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** Charlene Stine  
**Subject:** Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Dear Mr. Peters,

With regard to the bill noted above -- Council Bill No. 23-0371 -- that would allow a roadway through the cemetery at Old St. Mary's on Homeland Avenue, I urge the Council to allow participation by parishioners and their families prior to moving forward.

I will be attending a committal service at the cemetery on June 29th for Mrs. Rose Kane, so the cemetery is certainly still an important location for Baltimore Catholics. And I am sure you are aware of the service held each year on the first Saturday in November to honor four French soldiers who died in the Baltimore Harbor during World War I and are buried there. The tradition goes back to the 1920s and is important to the community (see the link: <https://www.baltimoresun.com/ph-ms-sailors-1103-20111031-story.htm>).

At the very least, I hope the parishioners will have the opportunity to be heard. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Gerczak  
6115 Bellona Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21212

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Frank Semon <frank.semon@bfsemon.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 9:13 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Mr. Peters,

I am writing to you out of concern for the zoning issue for the property located at 201 Homeland Avenue. I represented the Knights of Columbus Council #2901 in the transaction that sold the property to Notre Dame of Maryland University. The Knights of Columbus #2901 approached the University directly to pursue a sale in the hope that the future use would be generally consummate and continued with the existing auxiliary parking lot use by the University. The University was leasing the parking lot of 201 Homeland Avenue for their Genesis adult learning program. I had multiple meetings with Jim Constable, Esq. that represented the University and the CFO of the University as well as the Knight of Columbus #2901 of which I was and continue as a member. The Knights of Columbus Council is affiliated with three Catholic parishes in the immediate area including St. Mary of the Assumption. The sale was approved by the board of the Knight Council #2901 in part due to the fact that the University planned to use the site for their additional parking needs and that St. Mary's could continue to have access to the cemetery from the parking lot of the Knight's council property as it has had for decades. A proposed use that would eliminate this access is problematic as it goes against the spirit of what was understood when the property was offered directly to the University and eventually approved by the Knights with the continued access from the parking lot located on Homeland Avenue in mind.

If I can provide additional information or assistance please let me know.

Respectively,

**Frank B. Semon**  
**(410) 321-1926 x 26**

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** CAROLE McDade Family <mcdadefam4@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 9:49 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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I understand that Tuesday 6/20 (probably today, when you're reading this), there could be a vote on a bill regarding a Brightview Senior Living facility adjacent to NDMU and the historic cemetery for St. Mary of the Assumption Parish.

There appear to be many unanswered questions for persons who have an interest in the cemetery, and the Parishioners, and particularly the owners of plots in the cemetery, have not been kept abreast of this proposal in order to express their opinions.

This proposal would irreparably harm the tranquil environment, the ease of entrance and exit for hearses and mourners, and the ability of funeral processions to even park and enter/leave as needed in these situations.

As a registered member of the parish, I would like to request a delay/postponement on any decisions on this bill until more information is provided to, at a minimum, the families whose loved ones are interred in this cemetery and the owners of graves in which they will someday be interred. Please listen to any representatives from the St. Mary of the Assumption Parish and cemetery families before making any decisions on this bill, as there are valid concerns that very much need to be addressed.

Thank you,  
Carole McDade

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Peggy Egan <m\_t\_egan@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 10:11 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Fw: Bill 23-0371

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----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Peggy Egan <m\_t\_egan@yahoo.com>  
**To:** mattheww.peters@baltimore.gov <mattheww.peters@baltimore.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 at 09:47:23 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Bill 23-0371

Mr. Peters:

I am very concerned about Bill 23-0371 which will be presented on Tuesday June 20,2023. St Mary's Cemetery has been in this location for many years and contains the remains not only of members of St Mary of the Assumption Church but of many relatives, members of other denominations and (of historic significance) the bodies of three French sailors who died in 1919 and were interred at the expense of the church. For generations North Baltimore families have honored and continue to honor their loved ones at this holy ground. Last summer my husband was buried at this cemetery. His grave is surrounded by the graves of many neighbors and friends. The loss of easy access to these graves will make visitation difficult.

I lived in Homeland for fifty years. It is a community of tree lined streets. I understand that the building of Brightview residence will necessitate the removal of the grove of trees immediately west of the former Knights of Columbus building. This grove has enhanced the appearance of this part of Homeland Avenue and its loss will affect the immediate neighborhood.

The fact that this bill is being presented without citizen participation in the change of zoning appears to me to be undemocratic. Homeland residents and owners of burial plots deserve to be duly notified and given a chance to share their views. I ask for postponement of public discussion of Bill 23-0371.

Sincerely,

Margaret T Egan

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Miriam Lupien <miriam.lupien@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 10:38 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council); Riley, Meredith K. (City Council)  
**Cc:** kshaab@homelandassociation.org  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371: age restriction designation

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Good evening, I am writing to you as a constituent in Councilman Mark Conway's district because I have concerns about the above-referenced bill regarding the NDMU/Brightview Senior Living facility on the former Knights of Columbus Homeland Avenue site. I have concerns regarding the environmental impact of this project as well as the impact to the adjacent St. Mary's Cemetery; however, because I am sure you have heard from others regarding those issues, I will not address them here.

I have been unable to determine the age restriction for this project, but I wanted to raise a potential concern regarding the designation of this facility as "age restricted." As the caregiver and advocate for my husband who passed away at the age of 52 from young-onset Alzheimer's Disease, I encourage the consideration of exceptions to the age restrictions if this project were to proceed. Alzheimer's Disease is a devastating illness at any age but it brings many added difficulties when it strikes young. One of these is the ability to find an appropriate care facility that is willing and able to accept and manage a younger patient with Alzheimer's. Patients with younger onset dementias deserve the same options and access to care as do the elderly.

Thank you for your consideration. Regards,

Miriam Lupien  
324 Saint Dunstons Road

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** marymuthie <marymuthie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 10:46 PM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Both of my parents are buried at St. Mary's Cemetery located on Homeland Avenue at the same location as the former Knights of Columbus Hall and parking lot (which is located behind Notre Dame of Maryland University). Apparently, Baltimore City is considering building a senior living facility on the site of the former Knights of Columbus Hall and the existing parking spaces where my family and I park to visit my parents' graves would be lost. Therefore, I am respectfully seeking a postponement of a zoning decision until families and parishioners of St. Mary's Parish who have loved ones buried there have a chance to be heard regarding this zoning issue. Thank you for your consideration of what is a very personal and important matter to many families of St. Mary's.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device



## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Theresa DiVenti <tdiventi@gwmail.gwu.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 1:19 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No 23-0371

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Dear Mr. Peters,

I oppose Bill No. 23-0371 that would disturb the graves of my great grandparents, William and Catherine Flynn. Please add my name to the list of individuals who have a direct interest in the postponement of this zoning decision.

Best regards,

Dr. Theresa DiVenti

Sent from my iPhone

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Sean McGarvey <seanm.mandcsales@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 1:53 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** BCC Bill 23-0371

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Good Day;

I am writing in protest of the zoning change along Homeland Avenue for St. Mary's Cemetery. This bill should be defeated and let the cemetery stay as is with its parking lot. There is plenty of land on the other side to add parking. There is a VAST constituency who oppose this zoning change!

Sean McGarvey  
M and C Sales LLC  
443-928-7773  
[seanm.mandcsales@gmail.com](mailto:seanm.mandcsales@gmail.com)

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** Jamie Golden <jamieggolden@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 4:26 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Please postpone the zoning decision to allow participation by parishioners and families to be involved.

Thank you,  
Jamie

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** Regina Simon <mrbluesimon417@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 5:43 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** The Cemetery at the University of Notre Dame

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Re: City Council Bill No. 23-0371

Dear Mr. Peter's,

Please postpone the decision making on the above bill - City Council Bill No. 23-0371.

The first time I heard of the bill was this evening, June 19, 2023 at approximately 11:00 p.m.

I live in Glasgow, DE now. I have family members buried in St. Mary's Cemetery and would appreciate an opportunity to attend a meeting on this Bill.

Please contact me as soon as possible:

Regina Simon  
154 Ascot Court  
Bear, DE 19701  
Phone Number: 302-229-9594  
Email Address: [Mrbluesimon417@gmail.com](mailto:Mrbluesimon417@gmail.com)

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Brian Phebus <bphebus2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 6:51 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** Conway, Mark (City Council)  
**Subject:** Zoning hearing postponement request

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Matthew:

I found out this s morning that a zoning hearing is scheduled this afternoon to allow a senior living facility on Homeland Avenue that will impact St Mary's cemetery.

This email is to request a postponement so I and others can evaluate the request and voice either support or dissent.

I have interest in this decision since I have family members buried there.

Regards,

Brian Phebus

Sent from my iPhone

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Patricia Mann <jpjmanna@optonline.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:32 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** Mary Dauden; Joe DiVenti; Theresa DiVenti  
**Subject:** Re: City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Dear Mr. Peter's,

Please postpone the decision making on the above bill - City Council Bill No. 23-0371.

The first time I heard of the bill was this evening, June 19, 2023 at approximately 11:00 p.m.

I live in Robbinsville, New Jersey now. I have family members buried in St. Mary's Cemetery and would appreciate an opportunity to attend a meeting on this.

Please contact me as soon as possible:

Patricia Mann  
21 Sara Drive  
Robbinsville, New Jersey  
Phone Number: 609-448-8764  
Email Address: [jpjmanna@optonline.net](mailto:jpjmanna@optonline.net)

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Lauren Rask <laurenrask@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:41 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** St. Mary's Cemetery Zoning

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Dear Mr. Peters,

It was brought to my attention that there are proposed zoning issues that would directly impact the cemetery. As someone who has a direct interest in the cemetery I would like to propose a postponement until those of us who have a direct interest are properly informed of all proposals and are able to discuss any and all of the of the all proposed zoning changes.

My father is buried there, my mother also has a plot next to my dad for when she passes. Our family has such history with the cemetery. My parents have family friends and neighbors buried at St. Mary's Cemetery. We feel we deserve to hear and openly discuss the future of the cemetery therefore I am requesting to postpone todays vote until we have time to review the issues.

Thank you for your understanding on this very important issue.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Brooks Rask  
Daughter of Bernard Francis and June Brooks  
407-247-5455

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** KEVIN B CASHEN <kbcashen@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:42 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill Number 23-0371

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I am writing concerning the above bill. My parents are buried in the St Mary's Cemetery on Homeland Ave. I am requesting that any consideration for a zoning change be delayed until there is a definitive plan approved to address where families may park to visit the cemetery. It is unfair to take away access to the cemetery without a resolution. Thank you

Kevin B Cashen  
443-934-3384  
[Kbcashen@verizon.net](mailto:kbcashen@verizon.net)

Sent from my iPhone



## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** mendozatime@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:42 AM  
**To:** Testimony  
**Cc:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** FW: City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Forwarding to the "Testimony" email box. Thanks

---

**From:** bendannart1859 <bendannart1859@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 3:48 PM  
**To:** matthew.peters@baltimorecity.gov  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

Dear Mr Peters

This City Council Bill No. 23-0371 has many moving parts to it by a variety of affected groups and its vote should at least be **postponed**. I was a member of St Mary's for 30 years. My late, dear wife is interred there, and my name is already on the headstone. This project, as currently construed, will change the entire character of this historic cemetery. There is much familiarity, serenity and past in those grounds which have been a source of comfort and peace to me and others for generations. In addition, putting (limited) parking at the bottom of the hill and building an access road and circle through the cemetery will alter its existing character in perpetuity.

I feel that the parish has been less than transparent about these plans, particularly as they pertain to lot owners such as myself. Let's be fair: **POSTPONE THE FINAL VOTE UNTIL WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION AS TO THE IMPACT ON THE CEMETERY.!**

Lance Bendann  
305 Tunbridge Rd  
Baltimore, MD 21212

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** mendozatime@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:44 AM  
**To:** Testimony  
**Cc:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** FW: City Council Bill #23-0371 & St. Mary's Cemetery

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Forwarding to the "testimony" mailbox. thanks

---

**From:** Cathy & Jay Berkey <cjberks11311@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 11:17 PM  
**To:** Mark.Conway@baltimorecity.gov; CouncilPresident@baltimorecity.gov  
**Cc:** stmaryotag@archbalt.org; Jess <mendezatime@verizon.net>  
**Subject:** City Council Bill #23-0371 & St. Mary's Cemetery

Gentlemen,

I've just learned of the zoning proposal before the Baltimore City Council that would dramatically reduce access to St. Mary's Cemetery on Homeland Ave.

My parents and other relatives are interred in St. Mary's Cemetery. Their plot was purchased years ago with the expectation that their grave site would be readily accessible to their progeny and all who wished to pay their respects.

It is difficult for me to believe there's not a better plan from minds who care about the deceased in the Cemetery where many of the entombed, including my father, are World War II veterans.

I am very disappointed that St. Mary's of Govans, my home parish & school, and Notre Dame University gave so little consideration to the offspring of the deceased. I consider it un-Christian.

Please demand that Brightview Senior Living ("People Magazine's Top 100 U.S. Companies That Care® List in 2021 and 2022")

care a bit more about ingress to St. Mary's Cemetery for those of us who would have serious difficulty traversing the planned access road and path.

Thank you for your consideration, James Berkey

--

Anyone who thinks sitting in church can make you a Christian must also think that sitting in a garage can make you a car.  
Garrison Keillor

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Lauren Rask <laurenrask@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:48 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No 23-0371

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>  
> Dear Mr. Peters,  
> It was brought to my attention that there are proposed zoning issues that would directly impact the cemetery. As someone who has a direct interest in the cemetery I would like to propose a postponement until those of us who have a direct interest are properly informed of all proposals and are able to discuss any and all of the of the all proposed zoning changes.  
>  
> My father is buried there, my mother also has a plot next to my dad for when she passes. Our family has such history with the cemetery. My parents have family friends and neighbors buried at St. Mary's Cemetery. We feel we deserve to hear and openly discuss the future of the cemetery therefore I am requesting to postpone todays vote until we have time to review the issues.  
>  
> Thank you for your understanding on this very important issue.  
>  
> Sincerely,  
> Lauren Brooks Rask  
> Daughter of Bernard Francis and June Brooks  
> 407-247-5455  
>  
>  
>

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Tricia <tnmbthayden@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:06 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City council bill 23-0371

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Good morning Matthew

I was just made aware of this bill and would like to see this postponed until parishioners and family members are able to weigh in. I have many family members buried at St Mary's cemetery and would like to have more information and the opportunity to weigh in.

Thank you!

Tricia Hayden

Sent from my iPhone

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** pgphebus@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:11 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council bill #23-0371

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Mr. Matthew Peters  
Office of Councilman Mark Conway

Dear Mr. Peters,

Just this morning it has come to my attention that a zoning decision is to be made regarding the Notre Dame of Maryland University property on Homeland Avenue that affects St. Mary's Cemetery, located on that property.

My husband and his mother are buried there, and we own gravesites for the rest of our family.

Please ask Mr. Conway to request a postponement of this decision until those of us with an interest in the cemetery have an opportunity to voice our concerns.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Patricia G. Phebus  
100 East Melrose Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21212  
410-302-4641

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Thomas J Kane 3rd <thomasjkane3rd@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:19 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council); Conway, Mark (City Council)  
**Subject:** Please delay the zoning vote on the St Mary's Cemetery property adjoining Notre Dame University

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Gentlemen:

It has just come to our attention that Baltimore City is about to make a zoning change that will eliminate parking and put a road through the cemetery where my Dad is buried, where my mom will be buried next week. This is the same cemetery where my wife and I chose our final resting place, and where my wife's parents and her sister are laid to rest.

We have not been given ANY NOTICE or information about these changes to our precious cemetery.

Could you please delay your zoning votes and actions until living owners and living descendants of those buried here are made aware of the coming changes?

We have not been able to have any input on these changes. No one had made us aware of anything. My wife and I only found out about this via a Facebook post one hour ago.

Can you please delay this vote and provide us with all the relevant information about these changes? Can we have a meeting set up to review what is being proposed?

Sincerely,

Thomas J Kane III and Patricia L Kane

Make it a Great Day! Tom Kane 410-236-2582

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** James Hunt <jamiehunt344@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:22 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** Rick Otenasek  
**Subject:** CC Bill 23-0371

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Dear Mr. Peters,

Thank you for your willingness to listen to those who, like me, have family, friends, and neighbors, buried in Saint Mary's cemetery on Homeland Avenue.

I have not seen Brightview's plans for the site adjacent to the cemetery, but I am reliably informed by those who have that it contains no provision for those who wish to properly bury or mourn their dead.

As an aside, one of the seven corporal works for mercy for Catholics is taking care of the dead. It's appalling that a Catholic institution would allow a project like this to get so far. With zero notice given to those with loved ones buried there. It's a betrayal and I will let those at Notre Dame who are responsible know, as well.

Please ask Councilman Conway to postpone the decision until our voices can be heard.

James C. Hunt  
930 Litchfield Road  
Baltimore 21239  
443-467-9427

Sent from my iPhone

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Rick Otenasek <rotenasek62@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:27 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** Frank Otenasek; Courtney Otenasek; James (Jamie) Hunt  
**Subject:** City Council Bill 23-0371

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Mr. Peters;

I am writing you this email to ask that Mark Conway and the Baltimore City Council postpone their decision on a zoning decision regarding the development of land next to the St Mary's Cemetery on Homeland Avenue. My family has two family members buried at St Mary's Cemetery. We use the parking lot to park our cars when we visit to pay our respects to our loved ones. Since the families whose loved ones rest in peace on these hallowed grounds are more than likely completely unaware of what is in the wind, I am counting on our elected officials to do the right and honorable thing and delay voting on this matter until all parties can be heard from in an appropriate forum. I must say how disappointed I was to have to read about this on a Facebook post?!? It seems as though there has been no effort to proactively contact the parties who would be affected by this transaction. Please, Councilman Mark Conway and all Baltimore City Council members delay this vote until this matter receives the discourse that it deserves.

Thank you for consideration in this matter.

Regards,

Richard J Otenasek III

Sent from my iPhone



## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** MARK MCGLONE <mmcglone6@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:42 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Baltimore City Council Bill No 23-0371 , 201 Homeland Ave.  
**Attachments:** smime.p7s; ATT00001.txt; ATT00002.htm

Dear Mr. Peters-

I am writing to request that the Baltimore City Council consider amending the proposed zoning bill.

My wife and I both have family buried at the St. Mary's Cemetery on Homeland Avenue that will be affected by the development of the Brightview assisted living facility.

Specifically, the development as it currently stands, would severely limit access to the cemetery from the west side at the top of the hill causing issues for the elderly and the disabled.

The proposed relief would be a parking area on the east side at the bottom of the hill, which will mean hardship for the those two constituencies.

Visiting the cemetery to remember loved ones brings great solace to many, and the existing access affords that easily.

My suggestion is to keep some parking at the top of the hill on the south side and add an egress through the Notre Dame University road which nearly abuts the cemetery.

That way, those constituencies will have easy access to the cemetery and avoid hardship when visiting their loved ones.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark McGlone  
[mmcglone6@verizon.net](mailto:mmcglone6@verizon.net)

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

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**From:** Rosemary Richards <rosemary.richards52@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:49 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** jessica mendoza; Conway, Mark (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill 23-0371

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I reside in the Homeland area of North Baltimore and am also a parishioner of St. Mary of the Assumption Church on York Road. I urge you at today's vote on proposed changes to current zoning laws allowing construction of a senior living facility on Homeland Avenue to postpone a final decision until there can be a solution allowing continued access to the cemetery from the top of the hill. I have attended all meetings for the Homeland homeowners regarding this development and despite assurances that this access will be preserved, there is no firm commitment from BVL.

Respectfully yours,  
Paul and Rosemary Richards  
325 Broadmoor Road

Sent from my iPhone

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Mary Dauden <mary.dauden@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:53 AM  
**To:** Patricia Mann  
**Cc:** Peters, Matthew (City Council); Joe Diventi; Theresa DiVenti  
**Subject:** Re: City Council Bill No. 23-0371

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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Dear Mr. Peters,  
Kindly postpone the decision and add my name and contact information to the list for the reasons aforementioned.

Thank you,  
Mary Dauden

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 20, 2023, at 7:31 AM, Patricia Mann <jpjmanna@optonline.net> wrote:  
>  
>  
>  
> Dear Mr. Peter's,  
>  
> Please postpone the decision making on the above bill - City Council Bill No. 23-0371.  
>  
> The first time I heard of the bill was this evening, June 19, 2023 at approximately 11:00 p.m.  
>  
> I live in Robbinsville, New Jersey now. I have family members buried in St. Mary's Cemetery and would appreciate an opportunity to attend a meeting on this.  
>  
> Please contact me as soon as possible:  
>  
> Patricia Mann  
> 21 Sara Drive  
> Robbinsville, New Jersey  
> Phone Number: 609-448-8764  
> Email Address: [jpjmanna@optonline.net](mailto:jpjmanna@optonline.net)  
>

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Rosemary Richards <rosemary.richards52@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council); Conway, Mark (City Council)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Baltimore City Council Bill No. 23-0371 - Community member objection

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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I support the above concerns for continued access to St. Mary's Cemetery/Homeland Ave.  
I am a resident of Homeland and a parishioner of St. Mary's of the Assumption Church.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** mendozatime@verizon.net  
**Date:** June 19, 2023 at 12:40:16 PM CDT  
**To:** matthew.peters@baltimorecity.gov, "Conway, Mark (City Council)" <Mark.Conway@baltimorecity.gov>, david.pontious@baltimorecity.gov  
**Cc:** "Rev. Jojo Opalda" <jopalda@stpious10.org>, "Perdue, Sabrina" <Sabrina.Perdue@archbalt.org>, Bollinr1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Baltimore City Council Bill No. 23-0371 - Community member objection

Dear Members of the Baltimore City Council Economic and Community Development Committee,

We are members of St. Mary of the Assumption parish and plot-holders in St. Mary's cemetery, and **we request that you postpone your decision on Baltimore City Council Bill No. 23-0371 and possibly the related bill on the June 20, 2023 meeting agenda.** As you know, St. Mary's cemetery abuts the Notre Dame of Maryland University (NDMU) property whose lease to Brightview Senior Living Development, LLC. (BSLD) is the matter you are discussing at Tuesday's meeting. From our point of view, the current proposed ceding our (St. Mary's) current, decades-old, right-of-way at the NDMU-cemetery property line would be severely detrimental to the expectations of cemetery plot-owners, to the cemetery's historical significance, to the general environment of the area, and to the potential devaluing of St. Mary's cemetery.

St. Mary's cemetery is a small cemetery on a hillside that slopes gently along the west end of the property (the NDMU-BSLD end) then becomes a steeper hillside as one goes eastward (the bottom of which is the proposed new cemetery parking lot). St. Mary's cemetery is considered a historical place, as the final resting place of former Baltimore City Councilmen, Baltimore City Commissioners, a Maryland Governor, the original owner of the Baltimore Orioles, the namesakes of several streets in Govans, and other Baltimore community and cultural leaders. Families including ourselves have spent many hours in quiet reflection in its beautiful pastoral setting with history and family all around us and nothing else to see or distract us except the trees and grass and the peace that goes with it. That is why

we bought our plots there. With the proposed plan, we will see an asphalt parking lot at the bottom of the steep side of the cemetery hill, an asphalt or gravel road cutting through and looping through our tiny cemetery, and potentially cars parked in the roadway for visitors who cannot make the walk up the steep hill from the parking lot.

While we understand that NDMU, BSLD and representatives of St Mary's Parish/the Archdiocese of Baltimore have had discussions on the matter, we would like to stipulate that cemetery plot-owners, families with relatives interred in the cemetery, and parishioners (except, possibly, Pastoral Council members), were not involved in any discussions, were not asked for feedback or even formally notified of the significant and disturbing changes should the current proposal go through as written. Our specific concerns are:

- The renegeing on the rights of plot-owners (current and past) who purchased plots with the understanding of the pastoral setting of their property. For example, if preserved, St. Mary's current right-of-way access from the NMDU side of the cemetery easily leads to an existing old road that goes down the south hill to a NDMU parking lot allowing easy egress via NDMU to Homeland Ave; this option would preclude the need for a roadway looping through the cemetery.
- Apparently, there is a possible issue with the placement of at least one grave in relation to the proposed road. If so, what are the arrangements and time-factor for the lengthy process of obtaining approvals to move the grave?
- What are the arrangements/compensation for the loss of grave sites that would otherwise be available for sale, thereby contributing to the perpetual maintenance of the cemetery.
- What will happen to the old-growth trees that now line the NMDU side of the cemetery and several younger trees that were donated by Parish families?
- What is the potential impact of a west-side, bottom of hill, parking lot the Stoney Run stream that runs along the west end of the cemetery. The proposed parking lot site has flooded several times in past years. Could the lot threaten Baltimore City's investment in Stoney Run's stream restoration efforts?

NDMU and BSLD had a meeting with the Homeland community, showing their plans and getting Homeland's input. One probable outcome of that meeting is one of the Tuesday bills' amendments that outlines a number of 'amenities' for Homeland, including a back road for sanitation trucks to enter the BSLD complex. No such meeting has been held with the St. Mary's community, and no similar opportunity for input. If a back road for sanitation trucks can be planned for Homeland, surely a similar accommodation can be made for the right-of-way noted in the first bullet point above. The cemetery is not in Homeland and does not benefit from any concessions made for Homeland.

We urge you to consider our objections and to at least allow time for true engagement with cemetery stake-holders **by postponing your decision on these bills.**

Thank you,  
Jessica Mendoza and Robert C. Bollinger, Jr

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** margaret <mpbrennan52@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 8:56 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Council bill #23-0371

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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I request postponement on this bill. We have plots in St.Mary's Cemetery. My son is buried there.. It is unclear how this new building will impact on the cemetery.

Margaret Brennan  
224 Northway  
21218  
410-467-6907

**To: Councilman Mark Conway**

**From: Denise A. Blackwell**

**Chair of St. Mary's History Committee**

**Long time member of St. Mary Church**

**Baltimore City Council Public Hearing on Bill No. 23-0371**

**Opposition to this Bill**

**It was brought to my attention that with the leasing of the old schoolhouse/Knights of Columbus Hall that St. Mary's Cemetery located adjoin to the above property would be losing it's right away for parking the entrance to our historic cemetery. With our aging population many would have a difficult time with the proposed new entrance would wind through the cemetery, one grave would have to be relocated, loop around and exit through an old road. Presently we park at the top and walk on a paved walkway to our grave sites. How will the relatives of the be notified regarding this move. How do we know that there is no other grave site that will be disturbed. The graves are very old, and some are caving in already, how many more will be subjected because of the increase of traffic. This road is steep and lined with Hugh trees. There is concern regarding Spring Lake which runs behind the cemetery, which is home to our deer population, Are our cemeteries no longer safe from defamations!**

**I am opposed to the Proposed Bill NO 23-0371. We would like to have a conversation with Norte Dame regarding this parking situation, And proposed road.**

**Regards,**

**Denise A. Blackwell**

**Chair of the History Committee**

**410-245-5726**

**blackwelldenise@msn.com**

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Gersomina de Freitas <gmdfreitas@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:04 AM  
**To:** Pontious, David (City Council)  
**Cc:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Opposition to the City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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To Councilmen Mark Conway and the Baltimore City Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to this bill as a member of the St Mary's History Committee. My opposition stems from the fact that the right of way will be taken away from the beloved family members of those buried in the cemetery and those who bought a lot to make this cemetery their final rest by the side of their beloved family members already buried there.

The right of way being taken away will cause a lot of discomfort and will not ease by the new project of building a road through the cemetery. The heavy work involved in the building of this new road may have adverse consequences on some graves but most importantly disturbing the environmental balance of this historic cemetery that houses our founding fathers in the Govans community, including city council members buried there, baseball players etc...

Respectfully submitted

Gersomina de Freitas  
[@Gersomina de Freitas](mailto:@Gersomina de Freitas)  
21212 Govans Baltimore



**Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

---

**From:** Mary Darling Knach <msdkfamily@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** "City Council Bill No. 23-0371".

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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mary Darling Knach <msdkfamily@verizon.net>

**Forwarding original email sent at 9:04 a.m. with revised subject line to include "City Council Bill No. 23-0371"**

**Sincerely,  
Mary Shelley Darling Knach**

**To:** matthew.peters@baltimorecity.gov  
<matthew.peters@baltimorecity.gov>

**Sent:** Tue, Jun 20, 2023 9:04 am

**Subject:** St. Mary's cemetery - 15 foot easement on existing parking lot next to cemetery

Dear Mr. Peters,

I have been a member of St. Mary's Church since I was 4 years of age. I started school at St. Mary's when I was 4 years of age. Due to high enrollment, I attended 1st grade in the Knights of Columbus building next to the cemetery and played during recess on the parking lot. I completed my grade school education when I graduated from 8th grade at St. Mary's School (currently Tunbridge Charter School). Over the years I have served on various committees including the Sesquicentennial Anniversary Celebration of St. Mary of the Assumption in 1999.

Yesterday, I was informed about the meeting today that would greatly impact St. Mary's Cemetery in the 200 block of Homeland Avenue next to a parking lot and the Knights of Columbus building. In 1999, I served on the history committee in preparation of the Sesquicentennial Anniversary. During this time I was made aware of the following important things about our cemetery that I thought I would share with you and the City Council of Baltimore. The parish is requesting a 15 foot easement from

# Homeland Avenue on the "existing" parking lot next to St. Mary's Cemetery.

St. Mary's Cemetery facts:

- \* Established in 1850
- \* Oldest grave marker dated 1846
- \* Cemetery may have been used as early as 1799 during the flu epidemic that swept thru Baltimore...the victims were buried in unmarked graves on one quarter of an acre in the northeast section of the cemetery...many of the bodies were orphans
- \* The bodies of four French sailors are buried in this cemetery...the French Embassy in Washington DC sends representative annually to conduct a memorial service at the graves
- \* In 1994, there were 3,494 individuals buries at the cemetery
- \* In the 1980's a new section was developed where current parishioners are laid to rest giving the cemetery a total of seven acres
- \* Anne Lindsay Otenasek, a victim of the Lockerbie. Scotland air disaster is memorialized here
- \* Jack Dunn, former owner and general manager & 7 time pennant winning Baltimore Orioles (1919-1925) is interred here

Please ask the City Council to grant a 15 foot easement on the current parking lot of the Knights of Columbus next to the cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Shelley Darling Knach*  
Parishioner of St. Mary's Church

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** susan beese <sbeese@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:10 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Bill No.23-0371

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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I oppose Bill No. 23-0371.

I now live out of state but I grew up in Homeland and my family as well as many family members of people I grew up with and attended church and school with are also buried there.

Building this Senior Living Center where the old St. Mary's School which later became the property of the Knights of Columbus is located would be a great mistake and a disgrace to all the families that have relatives and families buried in the cemetery. Did you know the oldest grave marker is dated 1846. Four French soliders are also buried there. I could go on but I think you understand my point.

The new facility and all the construction will also take a toll on the surrounding roads and the community of Homeland. This will cause more traffic on the roads such as Springlake Way, St. Albans Way and Homeland Avenue. There is already an issue with college students parking on the residential streets so now there will also be employees, guests and vendors also parking on the streets of Homeland. I did read where it promises they will not park on the streets of Homeland but let's be realistic. Also would you really want to place your loved one in a senior citizens housing complex that is adjacent to or overlooks a cemetery. It will be a constant reminder to them that death is right there waiting.

There was also mention that a roadway will be constructed through the cemetery. I could not see this on the plans. Where is it going to go. There is no room in that cemetery for a road unless you disturb gravesites. If that is the intention, have the families been notified?

I beg that you postpone any action

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

---

**From:** Patricia Berkey <pberkey997@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:13 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** CC 23-0371

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Good morning Mr. Peters,

I am writing in opposition to City Council Bill 23-0371.

My parents and other relatives are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery. Their plots were purchased years ago with the belief that it would be accessible to their children and grandchildren. We visit the cemetery often, and pay our respects to my parents and also at the gravesites of many of my parents' friends and contemporaries. Most of the people buried there were hard working residents of Baltimore City.

It is difficult for me to believe there's not a better plan from minds who care about the deceased in the Cemetery where many of the entombed, including my father, are World War II veterans. It saddens me that the St. Mary's community was not involved in these decisions.

Including the entire parking lot in the Brightview complex will make it very difficult to visit the cemetery. The roadway that is currently being proposed for access to the cemetery will mar the cemetery landscape and may be difficult for visitors to traverse.

I respectfully request that a final decision on this bill be postponed until the families of those buried at the cemetery (and those who have purchased plots for the future) can study the proposal and offer input.

Kind regards,  
Patricia Berkey

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Stu Crook <rightcontractors@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 9:24 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** Bill # 23-0371

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Mr. Peter's,

My parents and aunts and uncles along with friends, neighbors of mine are buried at St. Mary's Cemetery. I would like to here to proposals of the property before any vote takes place.

My mother and I attended school in the Knights of Columbus building and I am extremely interested in the plans.

J. Stuart Crook  
443-829-7151

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Julie Hunter <julie.hunter@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 10:58 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No. 23-0371

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Good morning Mr. Peters,

I am writing to advise you of my concerns of the proposed bill which would modify access to the St. Mary's Cemetary. Several of my family members are buried there and/or have arranged plots there. The proposed bill would restrict access in such a way as to make visits to loved ones' burial sites and well as future burial procedures very difficult. I urge you to ensure you are collecting concerned citizen's viewpoints on this issue and pause consideration of the bill until such time as greater community interests can be considered.

Julie Hunter

julie.hunter@outlook.com  
5 Fox Trail Court  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
240.460.9631

## Peters, Matthew (City Council)

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**From:** Erin Hoyle <erinhoyle33@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 10:40 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Subject:** City Council Bill No 23-0371

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Dear Mr. Peters,

It was brought to my attention that there are proposed zoning issues that would directly impact the cemetery. As someone who has a direct interest in the cemetery I would like to propose a postponement until those of us who have a direct interest are properly informed of all proposals and are able to discuss any and all of the of the all proposed zoning changes.

My father is buried there, my mother also has a plot next to my dad for when she passes. Our family has such history with the cemetery. My parents have family friends and neighbors buried at St. Mary's Cemetery. We feel we deserve to hear and openly discuss the future of the cemetery therefore I am requesting to postpone todays vote until we have time to review the issues.

Thank you for your understanding on this very important issue.

Sincerely,  
Erin Brooks Hoyle  
Daughter to June Brooks and the late Bernard Brooks



NOTRE DAME  
OF MARYLAND  
UNIVERSITY

**Economic and Community Development Committee**  
**23-0370 - Zoning - Use Regulation - Residential-Care Facilities (Age-Restricted)**  
**23-0371 – Zoning - Conditional Use - Residential-Care Facility (Age-Restricted) - 201**  
**Homeland Avenue and a Portion of Block 5027, Lot 003**  
**Favorable**

Greg FitzGerald, Chief of Staff & Vice President for Planning and External Affairs  
[gfitzgerald@ndm.edu](mailto:gfitzgerald@ndm.edu)  
June 20, 2023

On behalf of Notre Dame of Maryland University (NDMU), I thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **support** of [23-0370 - Zoning - Use Regulation - Residential-Care Facilities \(Age-Restricted\)](#) and [23-0371 – Zoning - Conditional Use - Residential-Care Facility \(Age-Restricted\) - 201 Homeland Avenue and a Portion of Block 5027, Lot 003](#). These companion bills would jointly permit certain residential-care facilities in the EC-2 Zoning District as a conditional use requiring approval by Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council, and authorize the establishment of a residential-care facility on NDMU’s campus.

Notre Dame of Maryland University is a private, Catholic university established in 1895 with the mission to educate leaders to transform the world. NDMU is a comprehensive university that offers a wide variety of full and part-time undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and certificate programs to women and men. The University enrolls approximately 2,000 students and has Schools of Arts, Sciences, and Business; Education; Nursing; and Pharmacy. Additionally, the University offers programs for adult students fully online and at several locations throughout the State. NDMU is located on a 60-acre wooded campus in northern Baltimore City.

There is a growing trend nationwide of partnerships between senior living communities and colleges and universities with the goal of establishing intergenerational communities and programmatic synergies. Across the country, there are over 75 such partnerships and in Baltimore County, Goucher College recently announced a partnership with Edenwald Senior Living to expand the retirement community onto the campus.<sup>12</sup> In addition to addressing a need for more senior independent and assisted living capacity in Baltimore City, the partnership between NDMU and Brightview Senior Living Development will provide unique benefits for both parties. NDMU’s Renaissance Institute, the University’s life-long learning community for adults over the age of 50, will serve as a source of engagement for BSLD residents. NDMU students in programs such as Nursing (BSN and MSN in FNP and AGNP), Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, Art Therapy, and others may be placed with BSLD for internship, clinical, or practicum experiences. BSLD will also serve as a source of full- and part-time employment for Baltimore

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<sup>1</sup> <https://seniorhousingnews.com/2022/09/06/back-to-school-university-based-senior-living-trend-nears-next-evolution/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://thedailyrecord.com/2023/01/09/collaborations-between-colleges-senior-living-communities-growing-in-baltimore/>



City residents, including for NDMU students. There may be additional opportunities for research collaborations between NDMU faculty and BSLD.

As NDMU and BSLD examined the feasibility of establishing a senior living community on NDMU's campus along Homeland Ave, the University and BSLD met with several surrounding neighborhood associations and other community groups. The purpose of these meetings was to inform and keep our local community apprised during the planning process. On February 23, 2023, NDMU, BSLD, and the Homeland Association signed a Memorandum of Understanding which has been submitted to the Committee. The MOU addressed several areas including facility design/construction, parking/traffic, signage, forest conservation/plantings, communication, etc. NDMU is committed to continuing to work closely with the Homeland Association and other surrounding neighborhood associations as the project progresses.

Along those lines, NDMU and BSLD have also worked closely with St. Mary's Parish and the Archdiocese of Baltimore regarding St. Mary's Cemetery to develop an alternative access plan that is satisfactory to all parties. Agreements with St. Mary's Parish will be finalized and executed following the conclusion of the zoning process. NDMU also reached out to all of the other colleges and universities in Baltimore City with an EC-2 zoning designation to alert them to the proposed legislation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit written testimony. NDMU looks forward to working with the Committee and various community stakeholders as the project progresses. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me at (410) 532-5109 or [gfitzgerald@ndm.edu](mailto:gfitzgerald@ndm.edu).

## **Peters, Matthew (City Council)**

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**From:** Sally Mitchell <m-smitchel1@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Peters, Matthew (City Council)  
**Cc:** Kathleen Colleran  
**Subject:** Saint Mary of the Assumption Cemetery, Govanstown, MD

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Please be advised that I am receiving information regarding the above captioned cemetery. The notices are stating that a road is planned through grave sites to make way for a senior center. If true I wish to protest against this construction as our family has family members buried in this cemetery.

Contact me regarding any actions pending as our family will not permit removal or relocation of our loved ones.

Sally Mitchell  
410-409-2502

Sent from my iPad