

Scott Greenberg

From: The Chongs <swedenchong@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 12:05 PM
To: Scott Greenberg
Subject: MICA

Dear Scott,

My husband and I have lived in the Mercerdale neighborhood the last 10 years and have raised two children who are now in college. Both our kids spent their busiest years growing up on Mercer Island and were involved in many, many activities both on island as well as off island. I am writing to share our family's thoughts on the MICA project.

We are NOT in favor of MICA being in the old recycling center next to the park for the following reasons:

1. It will greatly increase traffic and congestion in an area that has limited access through points. For residents in the Mercerdale and surrounding neighborhoods, we use the SE 32nd Street to access the I-90 West freeway. With MICA being on that street, the traffic there will be so busy we will be forced to go on 78th Ave SE which is already congested with so many businesses and pedestrians.
2. There is already significant traffic through lower Mercerdale to downtown. Drivers use our neighborhood as a shortcut to get to their destinations. MICA will significantly increase that traffic in a neighborhood that is full of little children, endangering their safety. Kids are out playing on the street and we have seen cars which are not from our neighborhood speeding through to get to downtown or the freeways. This will be multiplied if MICA is built.
3. Lower Mercerdale already has a tremendous parking issue in that on a regular basis, parking for the thriftstore and the park spills into our neighborhood. For special events like summer festival, half marathon, farmers market, parking also spills into lower Mercerdale. Because MICA does not have a plan for parking on site, where do you think people will end up parking? Obviously our neighborhood again.

In conclusion, MICA is a great idea but do we have to provide everything possible for residents on island such that they don't have to go off island for anything? I don't think so. We moved to MI for the quiet community, the schools and the convenience of getting to Seattle and the eastside. So did a lot of people. Please do not ruin this for us.

Sweelin Chong