May 15, 2022

RE: SP2021000017 Foster Forge Farm School

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

Thank you for this opportunity to express my opposition to granting a special use permit for the Foster Forge Farm School.

I would also like to thank the staff of the Commission and particularly Scott Clark for his conscientious work outlining the school's site plan and helping me understand it.

I oppose the plans for the school for several reasons beyond the unmet site requirements provided by the Commission's professional staff.

I believe the turning traffic on Barracks Road, right where the speed limit goes to 50 MPH heading out of town, that will result from the previously approved Field School and the proposed Foster Forge Farm School is unsafe and disruptive to traffic from further out in the County. The possible 160 students from the Field School combined with the possible 60 students of the Foster Forge Farm School, plus teachers and staff from both, will generate too much traffic in a constricted area. I believe this poses a real danger with cars pulling out and pulling in to these schools from Barracks Road. At what pupil count will VDOT be required to declare this a "School Zone" and slow traffic to 25 MPH twice a day?

In the summer I can clearly hear cars that go over the rumble strips on Barracks Road. I believe that means I will clearly hear a rooster, peacock, or other animal making noise on the "Farm". I don't need any more noise pollution. And I don't want my property value decreased by being next to 2 private schools.

The "ask for forgiveness rather than permission" attitude when they placed 3 sheds without County approval also set a less than favorable impression for me. Was this a one-time ignorance act? Or is this their normal operational mode? And the low-ball infrastructure is scary. I do not feel they are designing the best available sanitation facilities and buildings that can provide suitable shelter in case of a storm or tornado. There are also the environmental risks associated with

sewage disposal plans; the animal waste disposal system, as well as the noise and 24/7 care of the farm animals.

There is also the "dam". Knowing the history and former owners of the property, I feel at best this is an elevated road. I doubt it has the proper construction to be called a "dam". After 25 or so years of existence, it has yet to fill with water. It has trees growing on it, which I understand weaken a dam.

I do not believe a farm school should be shoehorned into a property that is not suited for such development, and we ask that you not grant a special use permit to Foster Forge Farm School.

Sincerely,

Robert Humphris
109 Falcon Drive