



Protecting Our Rural Legacy

Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Rd., P.O. Box 218, Dickerson, MD 20842
Tel. 301-349-4889 • www.SugarloafCitizens.org

Ms. Katherine Freeman,
Executive Director
Montgomery County Board of Appeals
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Re: Case No. S-2778- Petition of Robert Q. Gillespie

On behalf on Sugarloaf Citizens Association, I am writing to express our opposition to the appeal of the appeal of the appeal of Dr. Bob Gillespie, 22620 Peach Tree Road, Boyds, MD, related to his desire to construct an airstrip on his property.

Over the past years, we have been contacted by many members of our organization and landowners near the proposed airstrip opposing this application based on zoning issues, safety concerns, and a fear that applications of this type will spread throughout the Agriculture Reserve.

In the Montgomery County Code Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 59- Division 59-C-9, section (f) Airstrip, associated with farm is permitted in the RDT zone by special exception. The airstrip has to be associated with the work of a farm. Few farmers have airstrips. If they do, they are usually associated with crop dusting or perhaps allowing a large farm owner with many farms spread over Maryland to commute from farm to farm. It is our understanding that Dr. Gillespie is a physician not a farmer and that his farm raises only the crop of hay, if that. Hay production does not require crop dusting. Dr. Gillespie states clearly in one of the forms in the file that the use is recreational. Recreational airstrips are not permitted in the RDT zone.

We urge the Board of Appeals to dismiss this petition.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne Sturm, President
Sugarloaf Citizens Association
P.O. Box 218
Dickerson, Md. 20842

Email: annets1@aol.com