

[SCA September 2012 newsletter]

Global Mission Church Is Back

The Global Mission Church, which would build a megachurch with a footprint of over 100,000 square feet near Sugarloaf Mountain, is back before decision-makers in Frederick County with a revised application. Though the proposed structure is somewhat down-sized, its footprint is still 118,530 square feet, the size of a large super-store. Its sanctuary would have seating for 800 congregants and its dining hall would seat 320.

SCA opposed the construction of the megachurch as originally proposed in 2009 based on its size and environmental impact, increased traffic congestion, and removal of further land from agriculture. SCA is reviewing the details of the revised application, but our concerns about size, septic, traffic, water quality, views from Sugarloaf, loss of agricultural land remain. Access to the church would be from Maryland 109 near the junction of Interstate 270. That rural highway was not designed to handle the intensive traffic volume that the megachurch would bring.

SCA welcomes your input, your insights, and your involvement. Those seeking further information or wishing to become involved, including as a member of SCA's megachurch task force, can visit SCA's website at www.sugarloafcitizens.org and can contact me at president@sugarloafcitizens.org.

Lymphoma Research Bike Ride

In addition to protecting the Ag Reserve, SCA seeks to share its beauty with our neighbors in the city and suburbs. Recently, SCA reached out to members of the DC bicycling community who frequently ride in the Ag Reserve area to provide volunteer support for the upcoming Lymphoma Research Ride sponsored by the Lymphoma Research Foundation. The ride starts and ends at the Barnesville School on Sunday morning, September 30.

SCA wanted to let riders know that there is a behind-the-scenes group, SCA, fighting to preserve the open space and rustic roads so enjoyed by area cyclists. We will provide assistance along the ride route, and will distribute a cotton bandana to each rider with SCA's logo on it, along with a simple piece of literature about the Ag Reserve and SCA.

Please join us on Ride Day, September 30! For more information, please contact us at officers@sugarloafcitizens.org.

Jim Choukas-Bradley,

President

