

Planning and Zoning Board and City Commission Public Hearing Comments

06.01.2011 - Present

Proposed Somerset Grace Academy Charter School - Change in Land Use, Conditional Use and Site Plan Review Applications -
624 Anastasia Avenue (University Baptist Church), Coral Gables, Florida

	Date Received	Name and Address	No comment	No objection	Object	Comments (Verbatim)
859.	06.09.11	Burt Rosenberg				<p>Dear Mr. Riel,</p> <p>I thank you and the city of Coral Gables for letting all residents go on record with their comments in the issue of Somerset Grace.</p> <p>I would like to reiterate my comments of yesterday, at the Zoning and Planning Board meeting, and object, that the UBC church is not constructed to the requirements for a Miami-Dade public school.</p> <p>The M-DCPS General Considerations Design Criteria on page 7, January 2004 edition, states: H: Corridors shall be based on NFPA 101 units of exit width and be at least 6 feet wide except as follows: 1. Corridors serving classrooms shall be at least 8 feet wide. 2. Double loaded corridors serving 6 or more classrooms shall be at least 10 feet wide, except at PLCs. 3. Hallways in office or service areas shall be at least 44 inches wide.</p> <p>The District rules bring the Florida minimum standards up to standards found in other states, such as North Carolina, Virginia, and New Jersey.</p> <p>According to documents provided by Academica, the corridors in the upper hallways of UBC, serves 6 classrooms and is only 6 feet wide, thereby are not according to code.</p> <p>That charters are exempt from the certain state requirements for public schools, and are not obliged and cannot be made to be obliged to district codes, see http://www.fldoe.org/edfacil/charters.asp, is a matter of Florida public policy, 1002.33(19)a.</p> <p>However, in this open process, parental awareness should be focused on responsible charter school operators that they act mindfully of the fact that in the case of emergencies, their facilities will not function as efficiently as parents expect, due to narrower hallways and lower ceilings.</p> <p>Sincerely, -burt</p>
860.	06.15.11	Alicia Vidal			X	<p>From: GreenPaperMoon@aol.com [mailto:GreenPaperMoon@aol.com] Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 1:07 PM</p>

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						<p>To: Cason, Jim; Kerdyk, William; Anderson, Maria; Cabrera, Ralph; Quesada, Frank; Salerno, Patrick; Riel, Eric Cc: GreenPaperMoon@aol.com Subject: FrontDoor's Top 10 Dreamy Neighborhoods : HGTV FrontDoor Real Estate</p> <p>FrontDoor's Top 10 Dreamy Neighborhoods : HGTV FrontDoor Real Estate See #5 on link below. http://www.frontdoor.com/Neighborhood/FrontDoors-Top-10-Dreamy-Neighborhoods/54554</p> <p>We have a great residential neighborhood with good schools now. Please: do not ruin it (and all our City) by granting UBC/ Somerset's request to change the land use from "religious/institutional" to "community services and facilities". Alicia Vidal</p>
861.	06.21.11	Anna Louise Fulks 717 Santander Avenue Coral Gables, FL 33134-6524 afulks@earthlink.net			X	<p>From: ANNA-LOUISE FULKS [mailto:alfulks@earthlink.net] Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2011 9:18 AM To: Commissioners; Olazabal, Carmen; Riel, Eric; Salerno, Patrick; Superintendent's office@dadeschools.net Cc: Mike Murphy Subject: Re: Fw: A Neighborhood School???</p> <p>Ladies and Gentlemen:</p> <p>I bring to your attention an email that was forwarded to me regarding a request from a parent for transportation of their child from Kendall Drive to Coral Gables (SomersetGables Academy) located at University Baptist Church, 624 Segovia Street, Coral Gables, FL 33134. Please note that Academica/Somerset Gables touts itself as a "neighborhood" school but in fact many of the supposed "neighbors" are coming from as far as Homestead, the Redlands, the Roads, Westchester, the NW section of Miami, Kendall (east and west), and so forth.</p> <p>At the last Public Hearing, which was held on June 8th, 2011, I gave some of the street addresses from a list of supposed "neighbors" from an article that was published in the Neighbor's section of The Miami Herald who were in support of the charter school. Of the (165) listed names in the article that I researched of Coral Gables property records and tax rolls. . . only (53) of those "neighbors" listed were residents of Coral Gables and only (7) were residents within close proximity to University Baptist Church.</p> <p>We are fortunate to have wonderful and available schools in the City of Coral Gables. Miami-Dade School Superintendent, Alberto Carvalho, recently established three new schools in our City providing our children with an excellent public school education.</p> <p>I would appreciate it very kindly if you would keep the above in mind when the changes that have been proposed by Academica/SomersetGables to accommodate a charter</p>

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						<p>school in our City is brought before you. Coral Gables has always been a City of Neighborhoods.</p> <p>Thank you for listening.</p> <p>Respectfully Anna Louise Fulks 717 Santander Avenue Coral Gables, FL 33134-6524 Telephone: 305 446-7420 email: alfulks@earthlink.net</p> <p>Subject: Neighborhood school</p> <p>I thought you would all find this interesting – it’s a posting from a Mommy blog (Just Ask Boo) that appeared today.</p> <p>Private School Van Needed for My Child From Gina Ralph: Reply I need help finding a private school van service from Kendall Drive to Coral Gables (Somerset Academy Gables). Please Reply above if you can recommend a company. Thank you.</p>
862.	06.21.11	Louan Zagarino			X	<p>From: Louanzag@aol.com To: Jimccason@yahoo.com, wkerdyk@coralgables.com, fquesada@frvf-law.com, whatmeworry535@gmail.com, rcabrera@coralgables.com BCC: sandra@muradolaw.com, albert@mkt-focus.com, ccarta@gmail.com, alfulks@earthlink.net Sent: 6/21/2011 7:29:36 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time Subj: Change for "Neighbors" ???</p> <p>I found it very interesting that the following was sent to me and others in the blog Just ask Boo.</p> <p>Are we now trying to have a huge school, (which is privately run, but takes our public tax dollars away from the Public schools,) in a Neighborhood, and change the Zoning of Coral Gables for these many people who live outside of Coral Gables? They claim to be our "Neighbors" but actually are not. I find this absurd. Thank you for your consideration. Louan Zagarino</p> <p>Private School Van Needed for My Child</p>

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						<p>From Gina Ralph: Reply I need help finding a private school van service from Kendall Drive to Coral Gables (Somerset Academy Gables). Please Reply above if you can recommend a company. Thank you.</p>
863.	06.21.11	<p>Sandra Murado Law Offices of Sandra I. Murado, P.A. 901 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite 504 Coral Gables, Florida 33134 www.muradolaw.com</p>			X	<p>From: Sandra Murado [mailto:sandra@muradolaw.com] Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2011 10:38 AM To: Commissioners; Olazabal, Carmen; Riel, Eric; Salerno, Patrick; Superintendent'soffice@dadeschools.net; ANNA-LOUISE FULKS Cc: Mike Murphy Subject: Re: Fw: A Neighborhood School???</p> <p>Well done my friend! Sandra I. Murado, Attorney Law Offices of Sandra I. Murado, P.A. 901 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Suite 504 Coral Gables, Florida 33134 Tel. (305) 448-4300 Fax (305) 448-0600 www.muradolaw.com</p> <p>--- On Tue, 6/21/11, ANNA-LOUISE FULKS <alfulks@earthlink.net> wrote:</p> <p>From: ANNA-LOUISE FULKS <alfulks@earthlink.net> Subject: Re: Fw: A Neighborhood School??? To: Commissioners@coralgables.com, colazabal@coralgables.com, eriel@coralgables.com, "Pat Salerno" <psalerno@coralgables.com>, Superintendent'soffice@dadeschools.net Cc: "Mike Murphy" <mike@murphylawfirm.com> Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2011, 9:18 AM Ladies and Gentlemen:</p> <p>I bring to your attention an email that was forwarded to me regarding a request from a parent for transportation of their child from Kendall Drive to Coral Gables (SomersetGables Academy) located at University Baptist Church, 624 Segovia Street, Coral Gables, FL 33134. Please note that Academica/Somerset Gables touts itself as a "neighborhood" school but in fact many of the supposed "neighbors" are coming from as far as Homestead, the Redlands, the Roads, Westchester, the NW section of Miami, Kendall (east and west), and so forth.</p> <p>At the last Public Hearing, which was held on June 8th, 2011, I gave some of the street addresses from a list of supposed "neighbors" from an article that was published in the Neighbor's section of The Miami Herald who were in support of the charter school. Of the</p>

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