



A Christ-Centered Preparatory School

October 31, 2019

City of Smyrna  
2800 King Street  
Smyrna, GA 30080

Dear Mayor Bacon and Other City of Smyrna Leaders:

Whitefield Academy is proud to call Smyrna our home! Having been in Smyrna over 20 years now, we have thrived in this great city and enjoy the following: a student body of over 850 students, the majority of whom live in Smyrna; over 900 alumni, several of whom are returning to Smyrna to live, work, and raise the next generation; and over 160 employees.

We have always sought to be a good neighbor in this community and to serve the community well. In return, we have felt a great deal of support from all of you and the City of Smyrna. Further, we have been pleased with how the property immediately surrounding us has been developed and were encouraged that the future plans adopted provide for consistency with previous development.

We would guess a great deal of time and expense on your part went into these comprehensive plans for the City of Smyrna and Cobb County, and we just want to say that we think it was a job well done! We support the very first stated goal of the comprehensive plan, "to protect and preserve established residential neighborhoods." We are in full support of the future plans as stated in Smyrna's 2040 Comprehensive Plan and accompanying Future Land Use Map, as well as the alignment of these plans with the Cobb County 2040 Comprehensive Plan and accompanying Future Land Use Map.

The Whitefield Academy Board of Trustees is writing to state that our school community opposes rezoning the 12.7-acre parcel across from Whitefield Academy from its current low-density residential R-20 category. Whitefield has a particularly strong interest in what transpires on this parcel, as opposed to other parcels in the area, because this parcel is directly across from our campus. The parcel in question is zoned R-20, consistent with both of the comprehensive plans referenced above and consistent with the actual low-density land use in the properties surrounding that parcel. We have never opposed zoning applications in Smyrna, and even now, the primary message we seek to send is not so much one of opposition, but rather one of support for the currently zoned low-density use for this parcel. Rather than list out the many reasons our stakeholders oppose the rezoning of this property, we are assuming those factors were taken into consideration in the Smyrna and Cobb County plans, so we simply ask that the current zoning category remains, as is consistent with those comprehensive plans.



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Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please feel free to contact our head of school, Dr. Kevin Bracher, at [kbracher@whitefieldacademy.com](mailto:kbracher@whitefieldacademy.com) or 678-305-3029.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bracher, Head of School  
Whitefield Academy Board of Trustees