

SEMINARY HILL ASSOCIATION, INC.
2115 Marlboro Drive
Alexandria, VA 22304-1013

September 25, 2010

Ms. Suzanne Maxey, Principal
TC Williams High School
3330 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302

Dear Ms. Maxey:

The Members of the Board of the Seminary Hill Association, Inc. (SHA), were very recently informed that TC Williams has made plans to allow a varsity football game to be played under the lights on Friday night, October 29th. While we knew that there is always interest in staging football games under the lights and your former Athletic Director had raised the issue at a meeting of the TC Williams Community Advisory Committee (Committee) many months ago, we were assured that our members would be included in further discussions with the school before any final decisions were made or contracts were signed. These assurances were broken.

SHA has grave concerns about this violation of the DSUP for the high school. Condition #85 that prohibits permanent lighting in Parker Gray Stadium had to be approved in order to change the zoning to build the new school on the existing site states: "No permanent stadium lighting shall be installed at the School stadium or on any other athletic fields, including the proposed new practice field." This prohibition codifies the agreement made with neighbors when the original TC Williams was built. At that time, the homes in Chinquapin Village and Seminary were razed and relocated to the area immediately surrounding the new school. The school was built on a relatively small site in an area that was an established residential neighborhood and the prohibition against lighting reflected the close proximity of homes to the high school.

SHA continues to firmly support this prohibition and warns that the use of portable lighting for one game in no way opens the door for any discussion about additional lighting in the stadium or the right to stage more night games. SHA also requests details on the plans for October 29th. For example: What level of security is planned for this game particularly in relation to patrolling the outer perimeter of Parker Gray Stadium? Where will the lights be positioned? What are the plans for fan parking?

