

Subject: Re: 1-year Use Permit Review Associated with Site Plan for Bowlero/The Buchanan (SP65-U-18-1) - Community Input Requested
From: "Cory Giacobbe, Aurora Highlands Civic Association" <president@aurorahighlands.org>
Date: 1/3/22, 5:22 PM
To: Anika Chowdhury <achowdhury@arlingtonva.us>

To: Anika Chowdhury, Associate Planner

Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development| Planning Division
2100 Clarendon Blvd. Suite 700
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Ms. Chowdhury,

Thank you for your letter of 1 December 2021 seeking the Aurora Highlands Civic Association's input on the one-year use permit for Bowlero on 23rd Street in Crystal City. While the request came in during our December hiatus, our Executive Committee discussed the use permit at our meeting yesterday. Since our Civic Association doesn't meet until after the comment deadline, the Executive Committee would like to make a statement on their behalf.

Although the Bowlero business is located within the boundary of the Crystal City Civic Association, and CCCA has neither supported nor opposed the application, their members reported a high volume of late night noise. Moreover, the location is just two blocks from the Aurora Highlands boundary, and adjacent to and connected to our most vibrant business and entertainment zones on 23rd Street between Eads and Fern Streets. We would like to call your attention to the numerous police reports in 2020 from the Bowlero site, referenced on pages 16-18 of the January 2021 report you sent us. The police calls referenced fights, noise, drunkenness, assaults and gun violations inside and outside the Bowlero business. While we don't have access to the police reports from 2021, we are very concerned about the type of unlawful and dangerous behavior taking place so close to our homes and businesses in AHCA.

We would request that, prior to the County Board hearing on 22 January 2022, in which this use permit will be considered, the 2021 police report for this site be made available to AHCA and CCCA. We would like to be assured that the noise and violence at the site have been minimized and mitigated.

Our position is that we support renewing the use permit, but for no longer than a year, with the provision that Bowlero owners and managers take actions to manage crowds and noise, and reduce calls to the police related to the actions of their customers, and make the venue more appealing to local customers.

Respectfully yours,

Cory Giacobbe
President, Aurora Highlands Civic Association