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To: [Planning](#)
Cc: [Chris Elias](#); [Maria](#)
Subject: St Theresa Catholic School Public Hearing
Date: Saturday, January 4, 2025 3:19:28 PM

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Hi City of Coral Gables,

I am writing in regard to Amendment to Ordinance No. 2997, the expansion of St Theresa with a new building and increasing school enrollment.

I am extremely concerned about the proposed changes for St Theresa.

First, what makes Coral Gables the incredible city it is today is largely attributable to beautiful greenery of our neighborhood. I worry that the addition of an almost 20,000 square foot building right in the middle of a residential community will take away from that as that will eat up a large chunk of the current campus that doesn't already have a building or parking lot built on it.

Second, and even more concerning, the proposed increase of enrollment is extremely worrying. The current drop off and pick up situation and the safety issues I have encountered being a resident on the 1200 block of Almeria Avenue have been very alarming with the current enrollment figures. Drop off and pick up cause large lines of cars that back up traffic on Valencia Ave, Sevilla Ave, Columbus Blvd and sometimes Almeria Avenue. I have almost been struck multiple times by cars going the wrong way on these streets to avoid the backup caused by drop off and pick up at St Theresa. My wife, ccd on this email, has almost been struck many times when walking to pick up our daughter, who goes to ECC (on Columbus Blvd, just north of the Biltmore), due to car congestion and agitated parents' impatience due to waiting in long lines during pick up.

I am happy to chat live if anyone has questions.

A very concerned resident,
Chris and Maria Elias
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