1	GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
2	Office of Zoning
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9	MHI-Brookland, LLC and The Redemptorists-Consolidated
10	Review and Approval of a Planned Unit Development and
11	PUD-Related Map Amendment @Squares 3645 & 3648 and
12	Parcel 132/89
13	
14	
15	
16	6:31 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
17	Thursday, October 29, 2015
18	
19	441 4th Street, N.W.
20	Jerrily R. Kress Memorial Room
21	Second Floor Hearing Room, Suite 220 South
22	Washington, D.C. 20001
23	
24	
25	

- 1 Board Members:
- 2 ANTHONY HOOD, Chairperson
- 3 MARCIE COHEN, Commissioner
- 4 PETER MAY, Commissioner
- 5 ROBERT MILLER, Commissioner
- 6 MICHAEL TURNBULL, Commissioner
- 7 SHARON SCHELLIN, Secretary

- 9 Office of Planning:
- 10 JENNIFER STEINGASSER
- 11 ELISA VITALE

12

- 13 DDOT:
- 14 RYAN WESTROM

15

- 16 Also Present:
- 17 CHRISTINE RODDY
- 18 ANDREW ROSENBERGER
- 19 CHRIS LESSARD
- 20 SHAWN FROST
- 21 FRANK M. KEA
- 22 KEVIN DEVINE
- DANIEL B. VAN PELT
- 24 TERI JANINE QUINN
- 25 DEBORAH STEINER

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1	Also Present (Continued):
2	MICHAEL CLARK
3	DUANE DESIDERIO
4	DEREK SCHULTZ
5	TRACY CASWELL
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1 PROCEEDINGS

- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, are we ready to
- 3 begin? Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. This is a
- 4 public hearing of the Zoning Commission for the
- 5 District of Columbia. Today's date is October 29,
- 6 2015.
- My name is Anthony Hood. Joining me are Vice-
- 8 Chair Cohen, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner May,
- 9 and Commissioner Turnbull. We're also joined by the
- 10 Office of Zoning staff, Ms. Sharon Schellin, Office
- of Planning Staff, Ms. Steingasser and Ms. Vitale.
- We are located here in the Jerrily R. Kress
- 13 Memorial Hearing Room.
- 14 This proceeding is being recorded by a court
- 15 reporter. It's also Webcast live. Accordingly, we ask
- 16 you to refrain from any disruptive noises or actions
- in the hearing room. Notice of today's hearing was
- 18 published in the D.C. Register, and copies of that
- announcement are available to my left, on the wall
- 20 near the door.
- The hearing will be conducted in accordance
- 22 with provisions of 11 DCMR 3022, as follows:
- 23 preliminary matters, applicant's case, report of the
- 24 Office of Planning, report of the government
- 25 agencies, report of the ANC, in this case it's 5 --

- 1 5E -- is it 5E? Yeah, 5E -- organizations and persons
- 2 in support, organizations and persons in opposition,
- 3 rebuttal, and closing by the applicant.
- The following time constraints will be
- 5 maintained in this meeting: The applicant has up to
- 60 minutes, but we believe that -- we've read what
- 7 you've submitted; we believe you can do it in 30 or
- 8 less -- organizations 5 minutes, individuals 3
- 9 minutes.
- 10 All persons appearing before the Commission
- 11 are to fill out two witness cards. These cards are
- located to my left, on the table near the door. We
- ask you to do that before you come up and speak so we
- won't have a problem after you speak.
- The decision of the Commission in this case
- must be based exclusively on the public record. The
- 17 staff will be available throughout the hearing to
- 18 discuss procedural questions.
- 19 Please turn off all beepers and cell phones
- 20 at this time so not to disrupt these proceedings.
- 21 Would all individuals wishing to testify
- 22 please rise and take the oath? Ms. Schellin, would
- 23 you please administer the oath?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Please raise your right hand.
- 25 Do you solemnly swear or affirm the testimony you

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- 1 will give this evening will be the truth, the whole
- 2 truth, and nothing but the truth?
- 3 (Whereupon, the witnesses were sworn en masse.)
- 4 MS. SCHELLIN: Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. At this time, the
- 6 Commission will consider any preliminary matters.
- 7 Does the staff have any preliminary matters?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. Um, the Affidavit of
- 9 Maintenance has been received in the record and is
- 10 proper. The applicant has proffered some expert
- 11 witnesses, um, to, um -- well, actually, Mr. Van Pelt
- 12 has previously been accepted. Um, one, um, expert is
- actually just going to be available for, um,
- questions, if needed, and the other two, um, are --
- are witnesses at the table. They've, uh, not
- 16 previously been accepted.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, uh, we've also been
- 18 joined by the District Department of Transportation,
- 19 Mr. Westrom. Uh, let's -- let's, um -- Ms. Roddy,
- 20 let's -- Good evening. Let's, uh -- let's go through
- 21 the ones we have not dealt with. I'm sure we're not
- 22 going to overturn those that we have, uh -- we've
- 23 given that status for years, so we're not going to
- eve -- we don't even need to deal with that. So,
- let's just go with the new people.

- MS. SCHELLIN: So I believe that leaves two
- 2 individuals. We have Chris Lessard, who is the
- 3 project architect, with Lessard Architects, who has
- 4 been before the Commission several times, and we also
- 5 have Frank Kea, who is the landscape architect for
- 6 the project. And their resumes were submitted, and
- 7 they're both available for questions.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, uh, colleagues, we
- 9 do have both resumes. Um, uh -- uh -- Vice Chair,
- 10 what exhibit is that? Twenty --
- MS. COHEN: Twenty-six B.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: -- twenty-six -- twenty-
- 13 six B?
- MS. SCHELLIN: I'm sorry, I should also
- mention: The one that is available for questions, uh,
- is the c -- uh, the civil engineer, and he has also
- 17 been before the Commission f -- before. That's Shawn
- 18 Frost with VIKA.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Well, we won't -- we
- 20 don't want to revisit anyone we've already -- Let's
- just do -- deal with the two that we have.
- Twenty-six B, colleagues --um, any -- any
- objections, or do we need more time? Okay. Any -- Mr.
- 24 Turnbull, we doing okay? Okay, we will proffer them
- 25 and add them to our list. Okay, anything else? Ms.

- 1 Roddy?
- MS. RODDY: We would ask that the Commission
- 3 accept our transportation analysis into the record.
- 4 We had submitted it to DDOT, and we're incorporating
- 5 in additional comments that we had heard from the
- 6 District Department of Transportation.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Um, we already have
- 8 that, right? Yeah, I think -- I think I already did
- 9 that. Uh, did I already accept the, uh -- did you
- send me a e-mail about accepting the transportation
- 11 report?
- MS. RODDY: Um --
- 13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: The additional comments? I
- 14 think I already did that.
- MS. SCHELLIN: I can't remember -- no,
- because we would do it at the hearing, where they
- 17 had, um -- That's something that would be done at the
- 18 hearing.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Uh, any -- any
- 20 objections, colleagues?
- MS. COHEN: No.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, no objections.
- MR. TURNBULL: Yeah, Ms. Schell -- Uh, just
- 24 wanted to -- Ms. Schellin has indicated that, uh, our
- records do not show the civil engineer as having

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- 1 been, uh, before us and recognized as a --
- MS. SCHELLIN: I -- I didn't find him on our
- 3 list, anyway, so if he -- if he appeared, I just --
- 4 we -- we just don't have him on our list.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, well, he's not on
- 6 our list -- okay. Let's -- let's go with that.
- MS. SCHELLIN: I'll just add him if you guys
- 8 are good with that.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Let's see -- okay. We --
- we'll -- put the architects. Let's -- let's look at,
- um, the civil engineer. Any objections?
- MR. TURNBULL: Do we have his resume?
- 13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I think we do. I thought
- we had -- Okay. No, I thought -- I thought we had had
- 15 him before. Yeah. I'm sorry? Oh, okay.
- MR. MAY: I -- I have a question. I'm sorry.
- 17 This is Shawn Frost, who is -- who's the --
- MS. RODDY: Yes.
- MR. MAY: Civil?
- MS. RODDY: Yes.
- MR. MAY: Okay, um, but all -- his degrees
- 22 and his experience all talk to landscape architecture
- 23 as opposed to civil engineering.
- MS. RODDY: Um, he can speak to landscape
- 25 architecture. I can have him speak to his experience.

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- MR. FROST: I have a deg -- I have a degree
- 2 in landscape architecture. I've worked for civil
- 3 engineers my entire career, doing mostly rezonings,
- 4 preliminary plans, entitlements, all the way through
- 5 some full engineering plans under the direction of
- 6 several civil engineers.
- 7 MR. MAY: All right. I -- I just -- it's a
- 8 little strange for us to have somebody admitted as an
- 9 expert in civil engineering who doesn't actually have
- 10 a civil engineering degree.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I actually -- uh, in
- 12 looking at this, um -- it -- it says "services." I
- would actually just prefer for us, colleagues, to
- 14 take his testimony. I think -- I think you bring up a
- 15 good point.
- MR. MAY: Yeah.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Because when I read this
- 18 again, uh -- and I took your word for it, Ms. Roddy.
- 19 You said he'd already been here, so I don't usually
- 20 go back through that, but -- but, uh, when I read
- 21 this, it says "provides services." So it's not that
- we -- we don't think you're good at what you do, but,
- uh, we're looking at your credentials. So, I think as
- 24 to -- we can just take his testimony. Uh, uh, I -- I
- 25 don't know, colleagues, does. uh, everybody agree?

- 1 Not make him an expert, but, uh, we'll just take his
- 2 testimony.
- MR. TURNBULL: I would concur with that.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Anything
- 5 else?
- 6 MS. SCHELLIN: I -- I have one more
- 7 preliminary matter, if I could. Um, the ANC has just
- 8 handed in a request for a waiver for their late
- 9 filing. They had some issues in getting, um, the, um,
- 10 infor -- information in their report that -- so that
- 11 they could get great weight. And so, in doing that,
- 12 they didn't get their report in 7 days prior to the
- 13 hearing.
- However, um, Ms. Quinn is here to participate
- in the hearing, so we -- they would just ask that the
- 16 Commission waive the late filing of their report so
- 17 that they can participate in the hearing this
- 18 evening. And I do have that waiver request if you'd
- 19 like to see it, but I was just going to put it in the
- 20 record. It just asks for the late filing that says
- 21 the timely filed ANC 5E report lacked information
- necessary for great weight consideration. That's why
- 23 it was -- why it was late.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Um, is -- is this
- 25 something different from this -- she has something

- 1 different she's turning in tonight?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Y -- just asking for the
- 3 waiver for --
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Oh, sure.
- 5 MS. SCHELLIN: -- the late filing.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Sure. Okay. No problem.
- MS. SCHELLIN: That's it, just so that --
- 8 because it requires 7 days.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I gotcha. Certainly no
- 10 objection for our ANCs --
- MS. SCHELLIN: Okay.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: -- uh, who will volunteer.
- 13 So I -- I definitely don't have any problems here.
- 14 Anything else?
- MS. SCHELLIN: That's it.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right, Ms.
- 17 Roddy, you may begin.
- MS. RODDY: Thank you. Um, I'll quickly
- introduce the project team that we have with us this
- 20 evening.
- We have Kevin Devine, who is a represent --
- 22 representative of the Holy Redeemers. Um, we also, as
- 23 you know, Shawn Frost. Frank Kea is immediately to my
- left, who is the landscape architect, and I've Andrew
- 25 Rosenberger, the representative of Madison Homes, the

- 1 developer, to my right, and Chris Lessard, the
- 2 project architect. And Dan Van Pelt, who will be
- available for questions, is also here. I should also,
- 4 um, mention that Emily Vaias is, uh, um, here, who is
- 5 a -- the counsel for the Redemptorists.
- So, we are very happy to be here this evening
- 7 seeking approval of this planned unit development and
- 8 the corresponding map amendment. The project is
- 9 located in Ward 5. It's in the southwest corner of
- the inner section of Jackson and 7th Streets. You'll
- 11 hear additional details momentarily, but Madison
- 12 Homes and the Redemptorists are working together to
- 13 establish a community of thirty-nine, three-bedroom
- 14 townhomes on the Holy Redeemer property, while
- 15 retaining the existing Redemptorists building.
- We are simultaneously seeking approval of a
- map amendment from the existing zoning of R-5-A to
- 18 R-5-B, and this is consistent with both the
- 19 comprehensive plan as well as the surrounding
- 20 context.
- 21 The plans that we will present this evening
- 22 have really evolved since our initial submission. One
- of the biggest changes you'll note is that there has
- 24 been a reduction -- about a 5-percent reduction -- in
- 25 the number of units. The initial submission had

- 1 proposed 41 units; we are now proposing 39 units, and
- 2 that change really came from a -- comments that we
- 3 heard from the Office of Planning as well as the
- 4 Historic Preservation Office with respect to the
- 5 proposed site plan.
- There were initially fifteen units that were
- 7 proposed for the northern part of the site, and four
- 8 of those units wrapped around onto 7th Street. We
- 9 have since reduced the number of townhomes on the
- north to 13 townhomes. We have eliminated the
- 11 proposed townhomes on the northern part of 7th
- 12 Street, and we've set the, um, townhomes on Jackson
- 13 back just to open up the views of the Redemptorists
- 14 building.
- 15 Another change that we had heard from setdown
- was with respect to the affordable units. We have
- more evenly distributed them throughout the site, and
- we have modified the footprint -- the floor plan of
- 19 the footprint, um, so that the depth of the townhomes
- 20 are now -- they mirror the, uh, depth of the market-
- 21 rate townhomes.
- 22 And I also just want to note that, despite
- 23 the reduction in the number of market rate units,
- there was no corresponding reduction in the number of
- 25 the affordable units. They have maintained five

- 1 affordable units. One is in excess of the affordable
- 2 requirement, and so that additional townhome is a
- 3 three-bedroom townhome that will be available at the
- 4 fifty-percent AMI level.
- 5 Another modification since the initial
- 6 submission is the materials. You'll note, as we go
- 7 through the elevations, in response to comments we
- 8 heard at setdown, that there have been considerable,
- 9 um, changes and improvements to the materials, with
- 10 respect to the side and the rear elevations of the
- 11 townhomes.
- 12 And then, finally, we also heard that y --
- 13 that you wanted additional details with respect to
- the landscaping, and we have really taken advantage
- of the landscaping opportunities that the site
- 16 provides. And so, we have really developed the
- 17 landscape plan, and we have included that in our pre-
- 18 hearing submission.
- 19 Um, there is a proposed pocket park at the
- 20 corner of 7th and Jackson. There's a fully landscaped
- 21 muse in those details you'll hear about this evening.
- So, I'm happy to say that we're here with the
- 23 support of the Office of Planning, the support of
- 24 DDOT, as well as the support of the ANC, and I would
- 25 like to thank the Single Member District

- 1 representative, Ms. Steiner, who was critical to
- 2 getting us through the community process and
- 3 connecting us with the, um, important organizations
- 4 that are now, uh, featured in our benefits and
- 5 amenities plan. She was really wonderful in setting
- 6 up those contacts.
- And so, with that, I will turn to Mr.
- 8 Rosenberger, who will give -- I'm sorry, Mr. Devine,
- 9 who will give some background on the Holy Redem --
- 10 Holy Redeemers property.
- MR. DEVINE: Good evening. My name is Kevin
- 12 Devine. I represent the Redemptorist Fathers and --
- and serve the Redemptorists in the capacity of, uh,
- 14 director of the Office of Temporalities for the
- 15 Redemptorists.
- 16 Um, you may or may not know, the Redemptorist
- 17 Fathers are a religious community of Catholic
- 18 priests, uh, founded in the 1700s, came to the United
- 19 States in the mid-, early 1800s, um, and have s --
- 20 served primarily as mission preachers. Um, they're
- 21 currently in excess of 6,000 men, worldwide, in more
- 22 than 70 countries. Um, the Redemptorists specifically
- 23 came to the site at Holy Redeemer College in 1932,
- 24 uh, and built that property.
- Since that time, it has served, uh, a number

- of different roles. Uh, initially, it was simply a
- 2 place to house our priests, who were out preaching
- missions and serving in the area, uh, and traveling
- 4 across the -- the eastern part of the United States.
- 5 Uh, that evolved, over time, into different
- 6 capacities, including a formation residence, where we
- 7 had students there -- or seminarians that were in
- 8 training to become priests. Uh, it had a dual role at
- 9 that time, where many -- uh, uh, sometimes
- individually to serve as office space to support the
- mission that, uh, again, the Redemptorists do. Um,
- most recently, it's their -- served as student
- 13 housing.
- Um, it really -- it -- the property was at
- 15 full capacity for a number of years, uh, from its
- inception until about 2011, when we relocated our
- 17 students who were in formation at, uh, WTU --
- 18 Washington Theological Union -- up to Boston, uh,
- where they're now pursuing their -- their divinity
- 20 degrees. Um, and at that time, the use of that
- 21 building specifically has started to diminish, um,
- 22 and, uh, over the last several years, the
- 23 Redemptorists have really begun to look at where the
- 24 -- where the needs are for the property, and -- and
- 25 how that fits into our future plans as a community.

- Um, the intent -- and I can speak to this
- 2 specifically. In a meeting just 2 days ago with our
- 3 Provincial Council, which is the governing body of --
- 4 of the Redemptorists, the discussion really focused
- on how to continue to utilize that building, uh, to
- 6 serve the needs of -- of our community. Um, there is
- 7 no definitive decision to this point, but it is
- 8 certainly still under consideration, uh, of how to
- 9 keep it in -- in the fold of properties that are
- 10 owned by the Redemptorists.
- 11 Uh, the property's currently occupied by two
- men, who serve as caretakers of the place, uh, and
- are in residence on a full-time basis. Um, we are
- 14 actively seeking, or have been actively seeking, a
- short-term tenant for the building. Specifically,
- we've been looking for other religious communities
- 17 who might have students in the area attending
- 18 Catholic University, or other locations, who might be
- interested in taking the space for a period of 2- or
- 20 3 years, perhaps, as we more, uh, specifically define
- 21 what role we want that building to play for us in the
- 22 future.
- 23 Uh, we are looking for flexibility. We don't
- 24 know, for certain, what we plan to do with it. Um, we
- 25 certainly have some -- a strong desire to keep it in

- our portfolio, but we don't know, just yet, how that
- 2 will play out.
- 3 Uh, but that being said, we did recognize, a
- 4 couple of years ago, that we did have additional open
- 5 space on the property that was vacant and not being
- 6 used, uh, to house our building or for parking area,
- 7 and decided, at that time, that we would offer that
- s space for sale. Uh, and upon doing that, we received
- 9 a number of bids on the pr -- on the property and
- 10 opted to -- to go with Madison Homes, ultimately,
- 11 based on, uh, uh, the plan that they presented to us,
- uh, the concept that they were going to meet the
- needs that we had laid out and expected, uh, with
- 14 regard to preserving the -- the integrity of our
- building, um, and the designs that they had come up
- with. We th -- we thought it was a good fit for us,
- 17 and that was ultimately the decision that led us to,
- 18 uh -- to join with Madison Homes in this effort.
- Uh, as part of the agreement, we have agreed
- 20 that we will, uh, in -- during this process, apply
- 21 for historic designation of the property and take
- 22 that through its course.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Good evening, Chairman Hood
- 24 and Members of the Commission. I'm Andrew
- 25 Rosenberger. I'm a vice-president with Madison Homes,

- and I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you
- 2 tonight.
- 3 Uh, first, I'd like to start by giving you
- 4 some background, uh, information on Madison Homes.
- 5 For the last 20 years or so, we have fos -- focused
- 6 exclusively on building and developing urban-style
- 7 residential communities in the close-in areas of the
- 8 Washington area. Uh, the photos that you see on the
- screen, um, are representative of some of the
- 10 projects that we have done over the, uh, recent --
- over -- in our recent history. We've done single-
- 12 family detached homes, townhomes, and multi-family.
- 13 Um, we've been -- we've been partnered with the
- 14 Redemptists (sic) -- Redemptorists for, uh, nearly 18
- months, um, to get to this -- get this project to --
- to the point where we are today.
- 17 This is the site plan of the property, and as
- 18 you can see from this slide, the application, um,
- 19 before you tonight proposes 39 townhomes. It's a
- 20 2.73-acre site, uh, obviously, currently improved by
- 21 the Ho -- Holy Redeemer College building. Um, that --
- 22 uh, that building will -- will remain, um, and we wi
- 23 -- we are proposing 39 townhomes. That's 13, um,
- 24 homes on the north side of the property, and 26 homes
- on the south side of the property.

- Uh, since, uh -- since inception, um, we have
- 2 coordinated with the Office of Planning and the
- 3 Historic Preservation Office, um, in our involvement
- 4 of this property. Uh, we met with OP and HPO prior to
- submitting, uh, our PUD application, uh, and
- 6 continued to work with them, uh, after our
- 7 application was met. Uh, we valued their input, uh,
- 8 feel we have addressed their concerns, and
- 9 incorporated their comments into the plan before you
- 10 today.
- 11 Uh, likewise, our engagement with the
- 12 community predates our original filing submission.
- 13 Um, Commissioner, uh, Steiner is the Single Member
- 14 District commissioner for ANC 501 (sic), uh, and we
- 15 first met with her several months before ever, uh,
- 16 submitting an application.
- 17 Uh, since submission, we have met with ANC 5E
- 18 three times, most re -- recently in September, where
- we received their unanimous support for the project.
- 20 Uh, we've also met with the Edgewood Civic
- 21 Association twice, and the Chancellor's Row
- 22 Homeowners' Association, which is located directly to
- 23 the west of this property.
- Uh, at this point, I'll hand it to, uh, Chris
- Lessard, who will, uh, walk us through the

- 1 architectural.
- MR. LESSARD: Uh, thank you very much. Uh,
- we'd like to first talk about context of the site.
- 4 The site that we're talking about is here. The Holy
- 5 Redemption building is located here. This is
- 6 Chancellor (sic) Row. This is the Metro site with,
- 7 uh, with the Metro station there. This is, um -- uh,
- 8 right here is going to be some townhomes of Catholic
- 9 University, and these are the existing buildings that
- 10 just got built.
- We'll go into some of the images next.
- 12 That's, uh, Holy Redeemer. Um, I forget which one
- that is. Yeah, it's right across Jackson Street. It's
- 14 the, um -- can't read it -- the Centro Maria, uh,
- 15 Inc. building. Chancellor (sic) Row, this is also a
- rear elevation of Chancellor (sic) Row that's, uh,
- 17 facing, uh, the Holy Redemption site. That's the
- 18 Metro site, and that's the, uh, townhome, uh,
- 19 redevelopment that's going through Catholic
- 20 University currently.
- 21 Go back to the site plan, the first site
- 22 plan. Okay. I'd like to talk a little bit about the
- 23 constraints of the site. Uh, we feel it's very
- 24 important to maintain the context of the historical
- 25 building. The elements that we think are extremely

- 1 important is (sic) this berm element, and the steps
- to the trees, which has all been retained. Uh, these
- 3 trees are huge trees, right in the front. They kind
- 4 of set the basic context of that front elevation.
- 5 During the analysis with, uh, Office and
- 6 Planning, we had computer analysis to take a look at
- 7 the massing of the buildings, and where they should
- 8 sit in the site. Originally, we looked at putting
- 9 buildings located in here, and having front doors
- 10 here. Instead, with coordination with them, we lost
- 11 the two units in this location. We also went to
- 12 four-sided architecture, and we also pulled the
- buildings further off so we have a better
- 14 relationship from the Holy Redemption building to the
- 15 building.
- We coordinated our elevations with, um,
- office of Planning, and we changed the massing of the
- 18 buildings. Originally, we put terraces in the front.
- 19 Instead, we put terraces in the rear in order to gain
- 20 more space from this building, and then worked on the
- 21 details and worked on four-sided architecture so this
- 22 elevation complements the Holy Redemption building.
- 23 Um, and most of the trees -- the large, existing tree
- 24 canopy on 7th is being retained, which are these
- 25 trees located.

- And like I say, we think we've done a great
- job of pulling the context to the site. Oh yeah, and
- in the process, we kept -- and this'll show the
- 4 location of the affordables, which we -- we have one
- 5 additional, and also, uh, moved around the site, uh,
- 6 in an equal area.
- I think we'll -- uh, we'll point out some of
- 8 the brick elevations. Okay, this -- let me go to that
- one right there. This is the corner of 7th and
- 10 Jackson. This shows the park that we are proposing
- and also shows the building context. The buil -- the
- 12 trees here are actually larger. We were asked to take
- out some of our initial computer trees so you can see
- the building a little bit better. But this will show
- 15 how we have a brick -- a predominantly bri -- well,
- 16 not predominantly brick -- elevation pallet, where we
- 17 have 4 story here with elements that break up this
- 18 edge, and it turns the corner with brick, and you can
- 19 see the other, um, muse buildings further away.
- Next elevation -- This is an example of, uh,
- uh, one of the -- there's only really one muse on
- 22 this site. It shows the front doors and the details.
- 23 On the details, we worked closely. We have three
- 24 different entrance canopies, you know, and we'll --
- 25 I'll get into a little bit more detail there. You can

- 1 also see how the brick is turning the corners, and
- you can also see how, at the top of the buildings,
- we're holding brick all the way up around the edge,
- 4 and then breaking, so it looks like brick buildings
- 5 with some details that we -- we coordinated.
- Next elevation -- All right. This gives you
- 7 an example of the dominant buildings that you first
- 8 see when you come into the project. Uh, that
- elevation is, um, Jackson, and that elevation is the
- 10 string along 7th.
- 11 You can see the grade working up the street,
- also the details that we're using, where we have, uh,
- different entrance canopies. We have, um, porches. We
- have, uh, canopies, then we also have metal awnings,
- which are located, like an example, there, with, uh
- 16 -- with bays that are happening along the elevation,
- 17 then detailing, um -- a lot of detailing around the
- windows and, uh, edges, which is -- this is one of
- 19 the edge canopy details of the three-story br --
- 20 line.
- Next elevation -- Around the corners -- when
- we turn the corner, you can see how we turn the
- 23 corner with brick. We have bay details, rails, and
- one building in, we are always doing brick with the
- 25 detail in the change. Um, most of the units on the

- 1 corners are also 2-car garage units, and then we go
- 2 into 1-car internal. This gives you an example of the
- 3 step of the next series, which goes to a Hardie
- 4 detail, and more -- more bays and similar rail
- 5 detailing.
- 6 Next slide -- Uh, this shows you the
- 7 elevations of the muses, which are located in this
- 8 group. Has similar details. We have here, notice, a
- 9 -- basically a brick elevation, highly detailed, with
- 10 a lot of detail here.
- In the color selections behind you, you'll
- see that we'll have five different brick colors,
- 13 several different color colors, and there's a
- 14 combination. So, we're trying to emphasize
- individualism. Um, we're also, uh, taking the effort
- 16 to, uh, paint the gutters and -- and downspouts,
- which we'll show in the -- the material board behind
- 18 you.
- Next slide -- This detail shows the edge.
- 20 This is the units that are on, um, Jackson, and on
- 21 the, uh, relationship to, uh, Office of OP -- We had
- 22 some parallel parking. They encouraged us to get a --
- 23 a better relationship from this site. This is the
- 24 retention area and the, uh, elevations that relate to
- it. We think it relates very well, and we -- we've

- 1 coordinated the sidewalks. We've still maintained the
- 2 basic relationship edge to that building.
- Next slide -- Uh, this is the entrance off of
- 4 7th. The muses are going in here on the townhomes.
- 5 This is the edge of -- of, uh, Redemption. We have
- 6 the berm working here, and then we have a retaining
- 7 wall and a detail there. But the berm is maintained
- 8 at the front elevation.
- With encouragement, we've -- and we'll get
- into a little more detail on the landscape
- 11 architecture -- but we have street benches and -- and
- 12 bike racks and other things that work off of this
- main street. They asked and requested us to show what
- 14 a alley looked like. This is now alley elevation, uh,
- 15 and it shows how the brick turns the corner and
- 16 maintains the high-quality details throughout the
- 17 project.
- Next slide -- Uh, this detail shows the park
- 19 area, and I think we'll get -- the landscape
- 20 architect can get into more detail related to it, but
- 21 this is kind of the key corner of, uh, 7th and
- Jackson. And what we did here -- uh, by -- by
- creating the park, by maintaining the berm, and by
- 24 pulling the townhomes back and losing units on this
- 25 corner, we believe that we're maintaining the effect

- of the setting of the front building of, uh, Holy
- 2 Redemption, and I think that's part of the strong
- 3 concept.
- 4 You can also see how the stepback of the
- 5 townhomes here help in the relationship with that.
- 6 The -- the -- the building, even though it's three
- 7 story, the existing building is three stories, it has
- 8 large ceilings, so the massing of this building is
- 9 very large compared to what's around it.
- 10 Um, do you want to get into more detail
- 11 relating to landscape architecture on the parks?
- MR. KEA: Uh, good evening. I'm Frank Kea
- with Solutions, uh, Integrated Planning, Engineering,
- 14 and Management. Um, my involvement was with the --
- the parks, which include two mini-parks, uh, that are
- 16 basically off-site -- or off-sidewalk seating.
- 17 Uh, one is placed near the stormwater
- management facility, uh, which we thought would be an
- interesting location because of the planting that's
- 20 there that is, indeed, harmonious with the rest of
- the planting, but somewhat different because it is a
- 22 -- a stormwater management facility. Uh, at that
- 23 mini-park, we include specialty paving to -- to set
- off the area where the benches are, and we included a
- 25 bike rack so that, um, it would be near the benches

- 1 for -- you know, so you can ride, sit, you know, and
- take a rest, if necessary. There's another seating
- 3 area at the end of the -- the main drive, in past the
- 4 muse, which also includes benches and off-sidewalk
- seating.
- 6 Uh, additionally, in the muse area -- The
- 7 intent behind the design of the muse area was to
- 8 create this sort of serpentine walk with, um,
- 9 complimentary specialty paving that ends with a
- 10 planter and a pergola. And the -- the idea there is
- 11 to provide different relationships to the sidewalk,
- uh, from the front doors of the buildings. It's
- important to note that that space, um, though it does
- 14 provide access to the front doors, is maintained by
- 15 the homeowner association and, as such, is -- is
- useful for everyone, uh, in the community. It's
- intended to be a quiet, contemplative space. There's,
- uh, benches, um, along the sidewalk, uh, to encourage
- 19 seating and, you know, um, uh, resident visiting.
- Last is, um, the -- what we call the
- "Brookland Park," which is the park on the corner in
- 22 that photograph. And you'll notice that -- that that
- 23 park has crushed-stone paving. Uh, in addition, it is
- 24 wrapped by, um, um, what we conceive to be a
- 25 hedge-like shrubbery planting to sort of contain the

- 1 space, uh, and -- with the addition of ornamental
- trees to further contain that space and make it feel
- a little more park like. Um, it's also intended to
- 4 stay off of what's been referred to as "the berm," or
- 5 the slope that goes down to the sidewalk. Um, the
- 6 front of it -- uh, the entry area, which, uh, faces
- 7 Jackson, um, that -- the plantings there were
- 8 maintained back against -- to parallel the space --
- 9 or the face of the buildings along Jackson so as not
- 10 to intrude on the, sort of, front yard space there.
- Um, and it's important to note, in general
- 12 terms, um, there are -- there's a proposal for 800
- shrubs on the site, 88 trees, uh, which will more
- than replace, uh, the tree canopy that's being
- 15 removed -- um, far more. And of course, all -- all
- the plantings would be, um, by and large, native, and
- 17 th -- these plantings would be coordinated, um,
- 18 during permitting, with, uh, Urban Forestry.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: I wanted to talk a little
- 20 bit about community benefits. Uh, working primarily
- 21 with the ANC supervisor -- or, uh, Ms. Steiner, we
- 22 have developed what we to believe -- what we believe
- to be a very high-quality community benefits package,
- 24 uh, that's very much in line with the consideration
- 25 that we are requesting.

- Uh, first, we will contribute 35,000 dollars
- 2 to the Department of Parks and Recreation to outfit
- 3 the new Edgewood Recreation Center with new
- 4 equipment. Uh, DPR expects to begin public outreach
- 5 for this pr -- for the programming of this facility
- 6 this year, uh, with construction to -- expected to
- 7 begin next year, in 2016. Uh, I would like to sp --
- 8 specifically thank Michael Clark of the Edgewood
- 9 Civic Association for proposing this recommendation.
- 10 Uh, to promote jobs in -- job opportunities
- in Ward 5, we will contribute 25,000 dollars to the
- 12 Workforce Development Program of the
- 13 Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative,
- which is an existing program, uh, that provides job-
- training opportunities to Ward 5 residents.
- 16 Uh, we are proposing 10,000 dollars to the
- 17 WEDJ Charter School for educational equipment, to
- 18 give local students the resources they need for
- 19 future success.
- 20 Uh, the One City All-Star Ex -- All-Star
- 21 Extravaganza, or OCASE, Foundation, is an
- 22 organization that promotes extra-curricular
- 23 activities for D.C. students, and they hold an annual
- 24 backpack giveaway to give underprivileged children
- 25 access to the school supplies that they need. Uh, we

- 1 are proposing 10,000 -- uh, excuse me, 12,000 dollars
- 2 to provide additional supplies, uh, to increase the
- 3 reach and effectiveness of this program.
- 4 To promote transit and other alternative
- 5 forms of transpor -- portation, uh, other than the
- 6 private automobile, we will provide each of our
- 7 buyers with a transit welcome package that will
- s include maps, uh, and other transit information, as
- 9 well as pre -- pre-paid fare cards, uh, for Metro, a
- 10 1-year membership to a car-sharing network, um, a
- membership for the, um, Capitol Bikeshares (sic), um,
- and, um -- and others. Uh, we estimate this -- this
- total program to be, uh, at a cost of 8,000 dollars.
- Our affordable housing program exceeds what
- is required by the inclusionary zoning regulations.
- 16 Uh, we are proposing 12 percent of the total floor --
- 17 townhouse floor area as designated affordable. This
- is above the 10 percent required by inclusionary
- zoning regulations. In other words, we're basically
- 20 doing five units instead of four. Um, and further,
- 21 given our understanding of the demand for lower AMI
- 22 affordable units, uh, three of these units will be
- available to those earning fifty percent of AMI, and,
- 24 uh, two will be available to those earning eighty
- 25 percent of AMI, and all units, uh, will be three-

- 1 bedroom units, um, and therefore able to house
- 2 families.
- 3 Uh, finally, uh, as was alluded to earlier,
- 4 we will work with -- jointly with the Redemptorists
- 5 to file and pursue an Historic Landmark designation
- 6 for the existing Holy Redeemer College building, and
- 7 we are committing, uh, that such an application be
- s submitted prior to the first townhouse occupancy.
- 9 Uh, in sum, uh, we believe that the community
- 10 benefits package shows our commitment, um, to support
- 11 the current and future residents of the
- 12 Edgewood/Bricklet (sic) -- Edgewood/Brookland
- 13 Community. Um, at this point, I'll hand it back to,
- 14 uh, Christine.
- MS. RODDY: Thank you. And we have Daniel Van
- 16 Pelt, who's available for questions with respect to
- any traffic, um, questions or concerns the Commission
- 18 may have, and I also just wanted to point out that
- 19 there are material boards behind you that speak to
- the materials that are being proposed. So, with that,
- we're happy to answer any questions you may have.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. We want to thank you
- 23 for that, uh, presentation, uh, and while my
- 24 colleagues are getting ready to, um -- for their
- 25 questions -- and I have a few, and I usually go last

- 1 -- but let me just ask you: At the beginning, you
- 2 mentioned Ms. Steiner, uh, really wor -- Could you
- mention that again? I want to make sure I caught all
- 4 that.
- MS. RODDY: In -- she was instrumental in
- 6 connecting us with the people that we needed to speak
- 7 with that really were important to putting together
- 8 the benefits and amenities package. She might know
- 9 everyone in Ward 5 and was very helpful.
- 10 (Laughter)
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Oh, okay. I thought I
- 12 heard that, and I wanted to make sure I got it
- 13 correctly. Okay.
- 14 (Laughter)
- 15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Colleagues, uh,
- who'd like to start us off, um -- Okay. We're going
- 17 to start off with Commissioner May.
- MR. MAY: Okay, um -- this isn't going to be
- 19 very easy. The, uh -- first is a simple question. Um,
- 20 is this going to be fee simple townhouses, or are
- 21 they being -- is this a condo development or -- I
- mean, are they effectively condos? I mean, what --
- 23 how's that work?
- MR. ROSENBERGER: They -- they are fee simple
- 25 townhouses.

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- MR. MAY: They are fee simple?
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Yes.
- MR. MAY: Okay, but there's a -- a, uh,
- 4 neighborhood association or whatever that'll take
- 5 care of the common space? Because that is so much --
- 6 MR. ROSENBERGER: That's correct. There --
- 7 there is a homeowners' association, and there is
- 8 common areas, uh, for -- such as -- such as the muse,
- 9 the streets, um, the stormwater management
- 10 facilities, as examples.
- MR. MAY: Okay. Uh, did you look at other
- building types? I mean, you said you do multi-family
- 13 housing. Did you look at other building types for
- 14 this site?
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Uh, we did not. Uh, I
- 16 mean --
- MR. MAY: Why not?
- MR. ROSENBERGER: -- that's not to say that
- we didn't discuss it, um, but, I mean, generally, we
- 20 felt the townhomes were the -- were the best suited,
- 21 uh, for this location.
- MR. MAY: For -- for sales purposes, right?
- 23 Certainly not for the -- the site.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Uh, definite -- certainly
- 25 from a marketing standpoint, we felt that. Um, I

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- 1 mean, we -- we feel that -- that -- that the
- 2 townhomes work very well with the site. Um --
- MR. MAY: Okay.
- 4 MR. ROSENBERGER: -- um, it's obviously not
- 5 appropriate for single-family homes, um -- You know,
- 6 getting into a larger, um, multi -- multi-family can
- 7 be -- can be tricky, especially the -- the long
- 8 stretch along, um -- along Jackson Street.
- 9 MR. MAY: Yeah, w -- uh, okay, I would
- 10 disagree on that. Um, here's the -- here's the
- 11 difficulty I had. I mean, you know, there were a
- number of issues that were raised in this at -- at
- 13 setdown, and, um, you know, I know OP had a long lit
- 14 -- list of issues, and I appreciate the fact that
- there have been some changes, certainly changes since
- it was initially submitted, with the elimination of a
- 17 couple of houses, and, uh, there have been some
- other, um, what I would consider to be tweaks of the
- 19 -- of the design, and of things like the -- you know,
- the placement of the affordable housing units, and so
- 21 on.
- Um, but, uh, you know, uh, generally
- 23 speaking, um -- and I think I said this at setdown --
- the architecture of it, the design of it, still feels
- 25 cheap. It does not feel like it is of the quality

- 1 that I would want to see at a PUD.
- I mean, we're talking about, uh, increasing
- density, and we're talking about giving relief. The
- 4 idea of a planned-unit development is that you get
- something better than you otherwise would through,
- 6 um, you know, what might be done as a matter of right
- 7 on a -- on a map amendment or something. Um, and it's
- 8 just -- it's just not there, and I -- I don't -- I'm
- not even going to go into the particulars of it, but
- 10 it's really not very good.
- 11 And I've had this -- I mean, uh -- you know,
- 12 I don't mean to -- uh, you know, I have an issue with
- 13 this particular housing type. I mean, I think a
- 14 14-foot-wide townhouse that's 40 feet tall is a
- 15 really difficult thing. I understand that they may
- sell, but the fact that they may sell doesn't mean
- 17 that the Pla -- that the Zoning Commission should be
- 18 approving it, because I just don't think it's a --
- it's a -- it's a good model. I'd rather see wider
- 20 townhouses that are stacked than to see these skinny
- units that are so tall. Um, they're not very
- efficient, and they are -- they are -- I mean, I've
- lived in a 14-foot-wide townhouse before. It's not a
- 24 great living experience, honestly.
- Um, the townhouses, the way -- and -- and the

- other thing about it is that this narrowness of
- 2 townhouse means that it is necessarily of a
- 3 significant depth. You can have a -- a shallower
- 4 townhouse when you're wider. When you do that, it
- 5 pushes the building closer to the -- you know, the --
- 6 the college building behind it.
- 7 And I think that you're doing a real
- 8 disservice to that building. Eh, I know it's not a
- 9 registered Historic Land -- Landmark at this point,
- 10 but it is clearly a substantial historic building in
- 11 this neighborhood, and it contributes something to
- 12 the neighborhood. And what we've got is, we've got a
- whole bunch of townhouses sandwiched together,
- 14 crammed up next to this building. It's a terrible
- 15 setting for this building.
- I think that you could get a reasonable
- 17 development out of some of this excess land with a
- 18 multi-family building, um, of a similar height,
- 19 potentially even taller, but the thing is that it's
- 20 -- You know, it's where it's placed, it's the -- it's
- 21 the depth of the building, it's the footprint, and
- 22 everything else.
- So, I mean, I -- it's just -- I don't know
- 24 what to do with this. I can't -- I -- I cannot see
- 25 that townhouses are the right solution for this site.

- 1 Maybe you could do better if they were shallower
- 2 townhouses, and, um -- you know, and therefore
- 3 necessarily wider, um, but I -- I just -- I just
- 4 don't see it, um -- And -- and, you know, the -- the
- fact that the -- that I don't particularly care for
- 6 the -- the -- the detailing of this, and th -- and I
- 7 think the sloppy nature in which the facades are
- 8 composed, uh -- that's -- that's all secondary to the
- 9 -- to the problems that I have with the site plan.
- 10 Um, the -- I mean, and -- and even down to
- 11 the mater -- material choices. I understand that, you
- know, you've -- you've -- you've wrapped the brick
- around the facade so that most of what you can see
- 14 from the street is brick, um, but you're going to see
- a lot of other stuff on the back side, and you're
- using, you know, Hardie panels on the top level? I
- mean, really? Hardie panels? You couldn't go as far
- 18 as getting, you know, HardiePlank siding? You're
- 19 going to use the big panels with big seams? I mean,
- 20 it's just -- It's very frustrating.
- I also think the landscape treatment is -- is
- inappropriate. Um, I understand what you're trying to
- 23 create with that park at the corner at 7th, uh, that
- we're looking at right here, um, but it, in itself,
- is a substantial disruption of the setting of the

- 1 building. The building is -- is -- you know, it's on
- 2 a plinth that's formed by that berm. The plinth is
- 3 entirely grass. Eh, there not a lot of -- there's not
- 4 a lot of other adornment to it, there's not a lot of
- 5 other shrubbery, and you're sort of creating this
- 6 very square, formal, um, lawn, inset lawn, with a
- 7 gravel path around it.
- I mean, it's -- I'm sure it would be a lovely
- 9 place, uh, from the inside, but from the street, it
- 10 just looks so out of place, and I think it would --
- it would -- uh, it -- it -- it damages the
- 12 perspective of the building. I'd almost rather just
- 13 have nothing there but grass so that it retains more
- of the character that it originally had.
- Um, I don't think there's anything else I
- need to say -- I -- I can say about it. I -- I -- I
- 17 just -- I -- I 'm -- I'm very unhappy about this,
- 18 and I -- I have a hard time thinking that you could
- 19 ever improve this particular plan to the point where
- 20 I could -- I could be in favor of it.
- MR. LESSARD: I -- I would like to comment on
- 22 some of the issues. Um, we did, uh, Chancellor's Row
- 23 next door. We've done a -- a lot of product in the
- 24 District.
- MR. MAY: I'm well aware that you have done a

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- 1 lot of product in the District.
- MR. LESSARD: But on -- I'd like to answer
- 3 some of your questions. Um, the, uh -- we've studied
- 4 the site, not just for Madison, but for other
- 5 developers, also. We looked, at the time, different
- 6 things to put on the site. We felt the townhomes --
- 7 whether it's Madison directing us or whether we were
- 8 looking at it for other people -- uh, we thought the
- scale of the mass of the townhomes would actually be
- 10 more sympathetic rela -- related to the Holy
- 11 Redeemer.
- I personally moved into a 13-foot townhouse
- in the District as my first townhome, uh, in
- 14 Washington. Uh, a lot of people find it a very
- 15 livable space. We have done 14-foots before, so it's
- not an unusual dimension for us, and we believe that
- 17 the units inside live, and can live, as well as any
- other housing type. We think that the massing of a
- 19 larger building next to the -- the Redeemer building
- 20 actually might be a little bit of a problem.
- We did take the effort to make sure that the,
- um, materials, uh, did go all around the building in
- order to be sympathetic. Uh, we are using Hardie
- 24 panels, which, uh, has been updated in terms of the
- 25 detailing. They have, uh, draining port systems and

- other panel -- and channel details that make it a
- 2 far, uh, improved product than has been known in the
- 3 past.
- MR. MAY: Okay. Uh, I -- I appreciate all
- 5 this. Um, it's not, um -- you know, I'm -- I'm aware
- of other projects that you've done. I've gotten into
- 7 the debate with applicants before about 14-foot-wide
- 8 townhouses, and, uh, um, it's not a secret that I
- 9 don't like them. Um, the, uh -- you know, I don't
- 10 care for the townhouse model that has the immediate
- 11 drive-in garage and there's no back yard. I mean, the
- 12 -- these are not -- I mean, it's a different kind of
- 13 housing type. It's not a -- a traditional housing --
- uh, uh, townhouse, by any stretch.
- 15 Um, you know, the -- the fact that you can detail
- 16 Hardie board better than you used to be able to still
- doesn't make it look that much better. Um, and there
- 18 are places where I see it around town, and I find it
- very unsightly, and -- and it just smacks of being,
- 20 um --you know, just cheap.
- 21 So, uh, you know, uh -- and the other thing
- 22 about this is, I mean, we see other townhouse
- 23 developments. We see other things come before us, and
- 24 almost all of them are a cut above this, and I just
- 25 -- I -- I -- You know, again, I -- I could go into

- 1 greater detail about how I think the architecture
- inadequate, but, you know, I -- I'm -- I don't think
- 3 I'm going to be able to, um, suggest sufficient
- 4 changes that would make it palatable, at least to me.
- 5 I don't know about the rest of the Commission. This
- 6 is all just my -- my opinion of it.
- 7 Um, the other thing about it is that, you
- 8 know, again, going back to the nature of the -- of
- 9 the fourt -- I mean, I could un -- I could accept
- 10 some 14-foot-wide townhouses. You have a lot of them
- 11 here, and you have a lot of them here so you can pack
- in as many units as you possibly can. You could
- 13 probably do a reasonable townhouse development on
- 14 this site with half as many townhouses if you could
- 15 give them decent, um, width so they don't have to
- 16 have the same amount of depth. Right?
- When you squeeze it this tight, some of the
- 18 stuff that might have been in the middle has to push
- out to -- toward either end. So you get one room at
- this end, one room at that end, and all the other
- 21 stuff in the middle -- the bathrooms and, you know,
- 22 whatever. You know, if -- if you had more width, you
- 23 get -- you not only get a more comfortable
- 24 townhouses, you wind up with having to push less
- 25 stuff back there.

- 1 Um, it's just -- I mean, I -- you know, I
- 2 appreciate the answers. I understand that in some
- 3 sites, dealing with, um, buildings like this,
- 4 townhomes like this, are okay; it can be done well. I
- 5 mean, I don't know Chancellor's Row very well. Um, I
- 6 -- I don't really know it at all. I do know some
- 7 townhouse developments of this -- using this same
- 8 model of townhouse around town -- uh, some are okay,
- some are not bad, some I voted for in the Zoning
- 10 Commission and I deeply regret to this day.
- Um, I just -- I -- I don't believe that
- 12 -- I -- I think that you have to seriously cut back
- the number of townhouses, or look at doing multi-
- 14 family, in order to do the right thing for this site.
- 15 That's what it boils down to, for me.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: If I could, just -- if I
- 17 can quickly address the issue of, uh, townhomes
- 18 versus, uh, other, uh -- other product type -- Um, I
- 19 mean, I think --
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Excuse me. I think if you
- 21 look at it in -- in context, the townhouses actually
- work quite well, uh, with Chancellor's Row
- 23 immediately to the east. Um, we continue that
- 24 transition in -- in two single-family detached homes,
- which are directly across, um, 7th Street from this

- 1 site. So, I think townhomes, as opposed to
- 2 multi-family, provide a -- an adequate transition,
- 3 um, from -- from Chancellor's Row to the
- 4 single-family homes across the street.
- 5 Uh, the issue of 14-foot townhomes versus a
- 6 wider townhome -- Um, I can tell you, specifically,
- 7 our -- our reason for doing that. Um, as you know,
- 8 um, homes are expensive in -- in Washington, D.C. Um,
- we wanted to provide, uh, the opportunity for fee
- 10 simple home ownership for -- uh, without forcing the
- 11 prices up as high as we can. I mean, don't get me
- wrong, these -- these aren't cheap, um -- cheap
- units, uh, I don't think, in terms of price, but they
- 14 are less expensive than they could be if they were
- 15 larger units. Uh, that -- that was our objective in
- the 14-foot-wide units.
- MR. MAY: Uh, you know -- you know, and I
- 18 think it's a shame that we have to squeeze townhouses
- 19 four -- to four -- down to 14 feet in order to
- 20 somehow pretend that they're more affordable. Um, I
- 21 -- you know, honestly, I -- I understand that -- I
- understand that townhouses might be acceptable for
- 23 the overall context. I'm just talking about this
- 24 number of townhouses packed this tightly against this
- 25 building, and that's what I have a problem with.

- If we were talk -- I mean, you know, not too 1
- long ago, we approved another townhouse development 2
- that wasn't too dissimilar in terms of the types of 3
- units and the heights and, frankly, even the
- materials, um, but it was a -- a very different 5
- setting, and it was not -- not problematic. This is 6
- highly problematic because they're just too many, too
- tight, too close to that building. 8
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Uh, Mr. Turnbull? 9
- MR. TURNBULL: Wow, tough act to follow 10
- there. Um, I guess I -- um, I want to thank you for 11
- your presentation tonight. Um, I guess I'm -- I would 12
- go along with some of Commissioner May's comments. I 13
- think he raised a lot of good points. 14
- I'm not sure that a multi-family unit would 15
- fit in, myself. I think townhomes may be the right 16
- answer, but I think he does bring up -- up a good 17
- point on the -- on the size of the units, the width 18
- of the units. I think 16-, 18 feet is probably a 19
- little bit more comfortable unit that we -- we're 20
- beginning to see. I think 14 is getting to be kind of 21
- -- is kind of s -- kind of, uh, tight. 22
- Um, I -- I guess my problem with this, and 23
- even at setdown -- You know, architects need to 24
- sketch. They need to learn how to sketch, and do 25

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- 1 their little sketch drawings. I think it's important
- that they can take out yellow tracing paper and
- 3 sketch and put down ideas.
- But I really don't like getting sketch
- 5 drawings at a zoning hearing. This type of drawing,
- 6 we've sent architects and developers back and said,
- 7 you know, "If you're going to give us sketches, use
- 8 your 3D techniques on your computer and bring us more
- 9 realistic, life-like pictures of what these buildings
- 10 are going to look like." Because these -- when we see
- 11 sketch-up drawings, when I see them, it's like
- somebody's not showing me everything. Somebodies can
- 13 fudge a lot on a sketch and not really show things.
- 14 And that brings -- raises a lot of questions, to me.
- Let's talk about the alleys. There appears to
- be air-conditioning units, or some kind of units, by
- 17 the garage doors. I figured that up by looking at it,
- 18 although the sketches don't really do justice to it.
- 19 I still can't figure out where there's downspouts. I
- 20 see some indications, but I really don't know exactly
- where all these downspouts are. So, I want to -- one
- 22 thing that I want to know is, what's going -- And you
- 23 don't show a lot of elevations of the back of those
- 24 alley views, what those things really look like back
- there, and drawings. I need to see better drawings,

- 1 because I'm really worried about life in the alley.
- I mean, uh, garbage cans -- I see a place for
- 3 garbage cans. I see you've got a -- a place in the
- 4 garage for -- in some of the garages for a -- a
- 5 dumpster little trashcan, and some of those garages
- 6 are 9-1/2 feet wide. Typical American car is about 6
- 7 feet wide. Some of these little closets are 2-1/2
- 8 feet wide. You've got a foot -- you can barely open
- 9 the door on the other side to your mechanical
- 10 equipment, or even to the little storage units.
- 11 That's how tight these things are. You're thinking
- about some things, but you haven't solved it.
- So I'm concerned about alleys; I'm concerned
- about the whole life of what this project's going to
- 15 look like. Lighting -- I can see where you've shown
- 16 some lighting on the, um -- on the front and back
- 17 with these little -- the little -- the light
- 18 fixtures, um, but I really don't know what's
- 19 happening with the -- all the stuff that's going on
- 20 in that alley.
- I want to see better drawings of what the
- 22 alley and how you're handling all the stuff that goes
- out there, because life goes on in the alley. It's
- where people are going to walk, they're going to come
- out. There's no little door for them to come out;

- 1 they've got to open up the garage door. They've got
- to come out; they've got to take out the garbage can.
- 3 They've got an H -- you've got two mechanical units
- 4 out there, so where do they go? From an operational
- standpoint, and the logistics of how this plan even
- 6 works, I want to see how this works, and you haven't
- 7 defined that, for me, anyways.
- 8 Um, and drainage -- I guess, uh -- I just --
- 9 I looked for some of your drawings to -- to give you
- 10 a number on some of these things, but a lot of the
- 11 drawings that we got down, the civil and landscape
- drawings, they're missing numbers on the drawings.
- 13 They don't get cut off, so you can't see the numbers,
- what I'm looking at, but I saw one window -- one --
- one thing that looked like it. So you're showing me
- 16 how to -- how you were picking up drainage and doing
- that, but I really don't know what's happening in the
- 18 alleys: how -- how water is being diverted, where
- it's going down to manholes and getting picked up and
- 20 drained out. So I -- I need to show that.
- 21 Um, getting back to one of -- I -- I would
- 22 agree with Commissioner May that having Hardie panels
- up on that rooftop looks rather cheap. And, uh -- and
- 24 explain to me, on one of the drawings -- somewhere, I
- 25 saw where you call out, specifically, Builders vinyl

- 1 single-hung windows. Is that top grade? Is that -- is
- 2 that what you normally do? Builders -- Builders vinyl
- 3 single-hung windows. Question, question about
- 4 materials, big question --
- Lighting on the rooftop terraces, what's
- 6 going on, on that rooftop terrace? You got a light up
- 7 there? You got lights? You going to have a light? You
- 8 going to have one of those fancy little lights? I
- 9 think it needs to be downlighting. You don't want to
- 10 draw attention. Remember, you've got neighbors. You
- 11 want to be able to have this as -- you can have
- 12 social life up there, but when you get -- you don't
- want to really call attention to a lot of stuff,
- 14 what's going on.
- But I guess this is -- eh, this is getting
- 16 better than what we saw at setdown. I -- I still
- 17 think -- and again, you know, you got a lot of
- 18 neighbors calling about -- talking about the trees
- 19 going down, and, you know, the landscaping. You've
- 20 tried to come back and say you're going to put trees
- 21 back.
- I think Commissioner May had a good point
- 23 about the little park at the end: Is it really
- 24 solving the problem? Is it really doing -- do the
- 25 neighbors really want an enclosed little park with

- bushes around it? I mean, if -- if you're -- and can
- 2 residents come on this property, or is this going to
- 3 be a private, residents only, internal to the site?
- 4 Um, and I've got a question about the
- 5 building. I guess the -- the -- I heard Mr. Devine
- 6 talk that he's going to think about this for 2 years
- or something, as to what you're going to be doing
- 8 with this building. What happens after 2 years if you
- 9 decide that the Redemptorist Brothers -- or the
- 10 Fathers don't want this, and you're going to sell
- 11 this building? What if you get the order to sell this
- 12 building? What's -- what does that mean for this
- 13 project?
- MS. RODDY: Well, the project would remain
- the same. Part of this is, we're seeking the
- 16 flexibility to provide 46 residential units in that
- 17 building, and it wouldn't affect the development of
- 18 the townhomes.
- MR. TURNBULL: So you're looking for -- well,
- 20 I g -- I got to go back and look at -- 46 units
- 21 within the -- the historic building?
- MS. RODDY: At a maximum. We're providing 23
- 23 parking spaces, and so whatever would go in that
- 24 building would be dictated by the amount of parking
- 25 that's provided with it.

- MR. TURNBULL: Okay.
- MS. RODDY: And so all of the assessments
- 3 that we did, the analysis that we did -- like the
- 4 transportation -- the, um, analysis that we provided
- 5 was based on that assumption that there would be a
- 6 conversion.
- 7 MR. TURNBULL: Okay. Well, uh, my -- my
- 8 feeling is that I -- one of the concerns is -- and
- 9 again, as Commissioner May said, some of the
- 10 materials, the materiality, what we're looking at --
- 11 I think we need better examples of what's happening,
- what we're seeing, clearer -- not -- not little
- 13 sketches. Sketches mi -- might be good to show a
- 14 client, or show someone else, but when you come
- 15 before the Zoning Commission, we want to see. We want
- 16 to see exactly what you've got, want to see exactly
- 17 how you're handling. I want to know and put my finger
- 18 at it and say, "Gee, I'm confused by one --" If I
- 19 look at something on my screen here, I want to know
- 20 exactly what I'm looking at, and I can say, "Okay, I
- 21 like it. "Right now, I don't know.
- I think you've made a lot of significant
- 23 changes, and I appreciate that, but I think there's
- 24 some more refinement that -- that you need -- need to
- 25 do, at least for me. I need to know a lot more

- 1 information, um, to go ahead on this. Thank you.
- MR. LESSARD: I -- I'd like to at least
- 3 comment to -- We had computer drawings, um, in the
- 4 200 series and the 300 series. We were asked to do
- 5 them, uh, in color, which is one series, then we also
- 6 asked them to do them in black and white so it's
- 7 easier for you to see all the detailing that you
- 8 might request.
- Uh, in the presentation, we were trying to
- 10 get a summation of the overall massing of the, uh,
- 11 project. We did have computer wireframes, to sit down
- and go through the angles to make sure we understood
- 13 the massing between the buildings to make sure that
- we fell -- everything fell good in relationship to,
- uh, Office and Planning.
- MR. TURNBULL: Well, I think that's fine,
- 17 except that when you're coming in front of the Zoning
- 18 Commission to get approval, we -- we need to know. We
- want to look. I mean, some of us are very picky about
- what we see. We want to be able to see what the
- public's going to see, so we want to have a good idea
- 22 -- I mean, I appreciate the sketches. I think, you
- 23 know -- but -- uh, uh, but coming before this
- 24 Commission, where we approve things for the public
- 25 and for the quality of life that's going to be

- 1 happening, we need to know exactly what's going on.
- MS. RODDY: And I think one of the things
- 3 that we could provide some information on this
- 4 evening is -- You had requested details on the
- 5 draining, and we could have Mr. Frost speak to that,
- 6 if that would be helpful.
- 7 MR. TURNBULL: Well, I just want to see some
- 8 very clear drawings. Like I say, I -- I -- I saw some
- 9 things, but I couldn't tell you what the numbers are
- 10 because the numbers don't show on the drawings. But I
- just want to know where downspouts are, how they
- 12 relate to where they'll -- eh, where the, uh, HVAC
- units are outside, uh, how you're dealing with that,
- and same on the front. Where are the units? Where's
- 15 the draining going? So that -- I want to know how --
- what people are dealing with on the streetscape,
- 17 dealing with water and run-off, and life in the
- 18 alley.
- I just want to -- I mean, you're -- you're --
- 20 you're cramming a lot of stuff on this site, and so
- we've got to know what's happening, because, as
- 22 Commissioner May -- Commissioner May is pushing for
- less units, wider, and I'm looking for a better idea.
- 24 I think you guys need to go back and just make sure
- that we understand the quality of life that you're

- 1 proposing here, and right now, I've got some
- 2 questions.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Uh, Vice-Chair
- 4 Cohen?
- 5 MS. COHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Um, I --
- 6 I was very ambivalent about this project. I -- I did
- not have a problem with, uh, townhomes. Of course,
- 8 when -- I believe, also, that, you know, 14-foot-wide
- 9 townhomes are very narrow.
- However, I understand the need to look at
- 11 properties now and go for the affordability factor,
- 12 because we are experiencing just out-of-sight costs
- in this city, and people can't buy a home. Um, we've
- 14 had narrow, um, homes -- especially -- there are many
- in Capitol Hill; Alexandria, Vir -- Virginia.
- Um, so, on the one hand, the price point, for
- me, is very important. Average cost of a house in the
- 18 District is about -- or the median is about 600,000.
- 19 So I'm going to ask you: C -- what is your pro forma
- 20 for these townhomes? Roughly, if you want to give me
- 21 a range.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: A r -- a -- a range, um,
- for the, um, fourteen-foot-wide units would probably
- 24 be between six and -- um, mid-sixes, I would say, um,
- you know, give or take, uh, fifty thousand dollars on

- 1 either side.
- MS. COHEN: How wide is Chancellor's Row?
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Um, they have a mix of
- 4 units. Uh, I'm not exactly sure what their widest
- 5 unit is. I know that they do have a number of
- 6 14-foot-wide units. Um, I also know that, uh,
- 7 Bozzuto's project, um, up at -- which was the -- the
- 8 townhouse portion of, uh, Monroe Street Market also
- 9 has a number of 14-foot-wide units.
- MS. COHEN: I think that would be very
- 11 helpful to submit those into the record to show us
- 12 that, number one, they're out there in -- in that
- neighborhood and, two, that they're being sold and
- 14 for how much, because, for me -- Um, what we're
- 15 seeing now, of course, are multi-family buildings
- 16 with micro units. I mean, everything is shrinking,
- and that is disturbing, especially because these are
- 18 three-bedroom units.
- You're going to have a lot of occupants in
- those homes, and I'm assuming some of them are
- 21 children. And number one, I don't know where these
- 22 children are going to play. Um, so I think you really
- 23 need to study this further as to, um -- You know, you
- 24 have a -- a lovely outdoor area, but it seems that
- it's not user friendly for children. And I don't know

- 1 how many children are going to be living in this, uh,
- development, but there are going to be many, and
- 3 there's no open space for them. Uh, they can't g --
- 4 if they play in the alley, which, you know, is the
- 5 way I grew up. I -- I was an alley rat all the time,
- 6 playing out there, but, um --
- I -- I -- I just have to have more
- 8 information on that: Where are kids going to go? Now,
- 9 I know that the neighborhood has areas, but usually,
- 10 kids -- you know, parents want their kids near them
- 11 so they can watch them.
- Um, the other thing I -- I -- I'm concerned
- about is ADA -- American (sic) for Disabilities Act.
- 14 What are you going to do about that?
- MR. LESSARD: Uh, housing -- housing falls
- into, um, uh, Fair Housing Acts, not the ADA, which
- is public facilities, which, uh, because they're
- 18 townhomes, they're exempted from the Fair Housing
- 19 Act.
- MS. COHEN: I would --
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Provide me the information
- 22 on that--
- MS. COHEN: Yeah. I --
- 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: -- because I don't believe
- 25 that. Uh, just provide the information for us. Excuse

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- 1 me.
- MS. COHEN: I'm skeptical, too.
- MR. LESSARD: When -- when you have multiple
- 4 floors, you're -- you're exempted. When you are --
- 5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Just provide it to us.
- 6 MR. LESSARD: -- they -- they apply three
- 7 units -- they -- they cover three units or more under
- 8 Fair Housing, so everything's covered. But multiple,
- 9 uh, floor units, unless they have an elevator, are
- 10 not covered.
- MS. COHEN: Uh, I -- I just need to have a
- 12 little bit more information is what it --
- MR. LESSARD: I'll be hap --
- MS. COHEN: You can be --
- MR. LESSARD: I'll be happy to provide it.
- MS. COHEN: Yeah. And then, I -- I wanted to
- also address, um, some of the issues with regarding,
- 18 you know, green building and sustainability. Um, when
- 19 I read about the -- what, uh, Commissioner Turnbull
- 20 brought up, the vinyl issue -- Vinyl is known to be
- 21 carcinogenic, so please prove to me that this
- 22 particular material is not. I mean, there are about
- 116 carcinogenic -- and bacon just became one of them
- 24 2 days ago. You know, I -- I just feel that when you
- 25 see vinyl, it -- it -- it raids a -- it raises a red

- 1 flag, for me. It makes me very concerned because I
- 2 have, many years ago, run into this problem of, it's
- 3 carcinogenic. Um --
- 4 MR. LESSARD: Thi -- this is not a vinyl
- 5 product. Um, there's a board behind that will show
- 6 you what it is. It's a cementist-type product. You
- 7 can take a look at it behind you.
- 8 MS. COHEN: Then I -- I read "vinyl"
- 9 somewhere, I thought.
- MR. LESSARD: It's-- it's not a vinyl
- 11 product.
- MS. COHEN: Okay.
- MR. MAY: The -- the vinyl windows are
- 14 not vinyl?
- MS. COHEN: Yeah, the vinyl -- That's what
- 16 I'm talking about.
- MR. MAY: That's what Mr. Turnbull mentioned,
- 18 was vinyl windows.
- MR. LESSARD: I thought she was referring
- 20 to --
- 21 MS. COHEN: I'm -- I'm --
- MR. LESSARD: Hardie.
- MS. COHEN: -- referring to the same.
- MR. LESSARD: You're referring to the
- 25 windows?

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- MS. COHEN: Yes, anything with vinyl. That
- 2 word is just, you know, horrific to me. So if you can
- 3 show me it is not, I'd appreciate that. I need that.
- Um, let's see -- And -- and just, you know,
- 5 an aside: I think the, um, um, the RedemptoristS
- 6 building -- I'm sorry, I -- uh, if I'm mispronouncing
- 7 -- but that building's beautiful, and it would make a
- 8 beautiful, um, housing development. It is for -- was
- 9 for students, you're thinking it should be for
- 10 students, and I'm thinking it should be for
- 11 households. So I just want to throw that out because
- 12 that, um -- the need for housing is quite desperate
- in this city, and, um, anything that can contribute
- 14 to the -- the supply, even though it's out of reach
- 15 for most people --
- Oh, I -- I -- I know, I have one other
- 17 comment. It is out of reach of most people, as will
- 18 these homes, as well, even though several of them are
- being targeted to 50 percent and 80 percent of median
- income. Um, do be -- I -- I caution you about, um,
- when you do sell these units to 50 percent or 80
- 22 percent of median income, you need to negotiate some
- type of reserve on their behalf, um, because they may
- 24 have some issues paying additional costs for
- 25 homeownership.

- For example, in condos in the District, we're
- 2 having some issues with the inclusionary zoning
- 3 condominiums, because when the prices start going up,
- 4 there's an affordability issue for people, for
- 5 households.
- 6 MR. ROSENBERGER: So in terms of the reserve
- 7 -- just so I'm clear -- are you referring to, like, a
- 8 reserve relating to the HOA fees? Um --
- 9 MS. COHEN: Yes. Yes.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Okay.
- MS. COHEN: Definitely, and that may be
- 12 something you want to proffer for the affordable
- units, is to walk away with a less -- lesser profit
- and, you know, provide some -- something -- eh, eh,
- 15 bank some money for them. I don't -- I don't know if
- that's even eligible under the zoning laws, but I do
- 17 bel -- I do know that that could become problematic
- 18 and stressful for the neighborhood. So, um --
- MR. LESSARD: Let me add a little bit on
- 20 that. We -- we were -- I was on the task force,
- 21 Fairfax County, looking at affordable housing in
- 22 Tyson's Corner because of the higher density that
- 23 was --
- MS. COHEN: Mm-hmm.
- MR. LESSARD: -- coming. It was an, actually,

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- 1 fairly big deal to make sure it wasn't in the
- 2 condominium product because the condo fee is
- 3 significantly different, and the retention and the
- 4 funding and the fees are very different than a fee
- simple product that you're giving them everything,
- 6 because they have to pay for the additional parking
- 7 -- repair of parking 20 years down the road. And all
- 8 those different things add up to making it very
- 9 difficult, with that additional fee, to afford the
- 10 homes.
- MS. COHEN: Well, I -- I -- I just caution
- 12 you that that -- that that could become problematic,
- 13 because certain homeowner opportunities -- and I'm --
- 14 I'm thinking of specific examples in the District
- where there is tension because of affordability
- issues, different affordability levels, even in fee
- 17 simple. So I just, you know, throw that out for you
- 18 to consider. Okay?
- MS. RODDY: We will surely look at that.
- 20 Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Commissioner Miller?
- MR. MILLER: Uh, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Um,
- 23 are -- are all of the, uh, uh, units, um, three-
- 24 bedroom units, or are some -- or some are two-bedroom
- 25 units?

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- MR. ROSENBERGER: They are -- they are all
- three bedrooms. Some of the 18-foot-wide units, all
- of which are end units, have an option for a fourth
- 4 bedroom on the, uh, main level -- or on the ground
- 5 level.
- MR. MILLER: Um, and let me commend you for,
- 7 um, some of the improvements you have made in
- 8 response to, um, uh, previous comments by the Office
- 9 of Planning and -- and -- and -- and some of us at --
- 10 at -- at pre -- at the -- at the setdown. Um, and
- 11 commend you for, uh, providing more than the minimum,
- um, inclusionary zoning, um, uh, affordable
- 13 requirement by doing 12 percent instead of, uh -- of,
- uh, 10 percent, and for -- and for the larger units
- that's being provided for both the, uh -- the overall
- development and for the affordable, uh, units, um,
- 17 and, um --
- So I -- I appreciate that, um, at -- that
- 19 three of them are at fifty-percent AMI level, which I
- 20 think is very -- which is meaningful. Uh, I mean, it
- 21 doesn't sound like a lot, but the -- with all the
- 22 projects happening, these -- they -- they do begin to
- 23 add up.
- Um, I mean, some of -- some of us -- some
- 25 think the 80 percent AMI level really, even though it

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- 1 con -- does constitute affordable under the existing
- 2 inclusionary zoning, we have a pending case that
- we're going to eventually get to, uh, that will --
- 4 that is looking at lowering that 80 percent AMI,
- 5 because I assume 80 percent AMI ma -- eh, maybe even
- 6 -- even in this neighborhood, is market rate. I mean,
- 7 even though --
- 8 MR. ROSENBERGER: I -- I don't know the
- 9 specific income in -- in this neighborhood. Um, I
- 10 think AMI for a family of, um, roughly four is, um --
- at least within the past couple of years has been
- 12 right around a hundred and five thousand dollars. So,
- 13 80 percent would be a -- uh, in the low 80s.
- MR. MILLER: Well -- well, we're going to
- 15 look at that, but I appreciate you providing m --
- more than the minimum, um, IAC requirement, um --
- The -- uh, I -- I'm con -- a little bit --
- 18 I'm a little bit concerned about the relationship
- 19 between the, um -- the townhome development and the
- 20 beautiful, uh, Holy Redeemer building. Uh, is the --
- um, and I -- I -- I guess I'd like to see some of
- 22 the, um -- the, uh, drawings that Commissioner
- 23 Turnbull is talking about, the -- what's happening in
- 24 the back, and showing that relationship a -- um, a
- 25 little better.

- Uh, what is act -- the actual distance from
- 2 the -- from -- from facade to facade, uh, uh, from
- 3 the townhome development to the Redeemer building,
- 4 um, on -- on the, um -- the Jackson Street side and
- 5 -- I quess it's -- uh, I quess it's similar distance
- on the other -- on -- on the other side.
- 7 MR. ROSENBERGER: Uh, that information, um --
- 8 the distance between the rear of the townhomes, um,
- 9 and the Holy Redeemer building, on the north side, is
- 10 63 feet. On the south side, it is 75 feet.
- MR. MILLER: Um, and -- and as, uh -- and the
- 12 height is the same as the, uh, main cornice line of
- 13 the roof, or is it di -- or is it about 45 feet, or
- 14 -- or what is the height of -- of each of the -- of
- 15 the -- the -- of the, uh -- of the townhome
- developments, the maximum height, and what is the --
- 17 the height there at the, uh -- not the tower element
- in the center, but the -- the -- most of the Holy
- 19 Redeemer building? Is it -- is it about 45 feet,
- 20 or --
- MR. ROSENBERGER: The hei -- the height of
- our townhomes is, uh, right around, uh, 40 feet. Uh,
- it varies, depending on some of the, uh -- the
- 24 conditions of the grade. Um, that corresponds,
- 25 approximately, with the height of the -- what you

- 1 said is the main portion of the, uh, Holy Redeemer
- 2 building.
- MR. MILLER: Um, I -- I would be interested
- 4 in seeing, um, what Commissioner May was, uh --
- 5 probably wasn't really asking for, because he didn't,
- 6 but I -- I'd be interested in -- in -- in seeing
- 7 what, um, uh, an 18-foot-wide development would look
- 8 like, uh, in terms of -- in terms of increasing the
- 9 rear yard, uh, increasing that space in the back
- 10 between -- between the, um, um -- the townhome
- 11 development and the Redeemer building.
- Uh, because, I mean, one of the things that
- 13 you're requesting in here -- here is relief from side
- 14 yard and rear yard, and side yard's not very much,
- 15 but the rear yard is, you know -- The normal
- requirement is -- is a 15-foot setback, and there's
- only a 4-foot, um, setback here. I think in the R-5-A
- 18 zone, which this currently is, uh, I think there
- might be a 20-foot setback requirement, but we're
- 20 going -- we're going to R-5-B, where, I think, it's
- 21 only 15 feet. I -- correct -- someone can correct me
- 22 if I'm wrong on those dimensions.
- But I think I'd be interested in seeing, um,
- 24 what -- what he was -- what the dir -- uh, what --
- 25 that alternative, uh, to see if he can get the

- 1 additional space, uh, because I -- I -- it looks like
- we are going to be the design review, um, entity for
- this development. I mean, you're going for -- you're
- 4 going -- you're going for Historic -- what is the
- 5 status of the Historic, uh, Landmark application for
- 6 the Redeemer?
- MS. RODDY: It has not been filed at this
- 8 point. We would file it prior to occupancy in the
- 9 townhomes.
- MR. MILLER: So, I mean, if it were a
- 11 landmark today, you would have to go before HPRB for
- 12 this development, and you would get all kinds of
- 13 advice from that board.
- MS. RODDY: That's correct, and we have been
- 15 coordinating with the Historic Preservation Office
- 16 throughout this process.
- MR. MILLER: Right. I appreciate that. Uh,
- 18 I'm glad that you have been, um, but in terms of a --
- 19 a -- of a, um -- a board or an entity, we -- we are
- 20 -- we are the -- the -- with the advice of -- of, uh
- 21 -- of the Office of Planning are -- are -- are the
- 22 design review ent -- entity and are making the
- 23 decision of whether this is compatible with what is
- 24 likely to become a Historic Landmark. But it's going
- 25 to be too late for HPRB to get involved, um, one --

- because this development would be built already if --
- 2 if -- if everything goes along the timeline. Uh, I
- mean, it would affect anything that was tried to --
- 4 tried to add -- add to that Redeemer building in the
- 5 future, but, um --
- So I -- I -- I guess I would like to see some
- 7 alternatives that maybe showed some greater
- 8 separation or greater, uh -- or just showed
- 9 renderings, eh, um, in -- in the back that would give
- 10 me more comfort level that -- that -- uh, it does
- 11 give me a little comfort that the -- when you mention
- 12 the distance of 63- and 75 feet, but, um, it's -- You
- 13 know, compared to what's there today, with the great
- lawn and all that open space, which the community has
- used with a -- uh, as public open space, I guess,
- with the Redeemers' good wi -- good graces all -- all
- 17 these -- all these years, uh --
- On that point, the green space that you do
- 19 have, is that going to be open to the public, or is
- that for use of the, uh, residents of this townhome
- 21 development?
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Uh, the -- the open space,
- uh, will be -- it will be maintained and owned by the
- 24 HOA. Uh, we are not proposing any restrictions, uh,
- 25 that would prevent, uh, the public from -- from using

- 1 that space.
- MR. MILLER: And it's not going to be
- 3 fenced --
- MR. ROSENBERGER: It will not be --
- 5 MR. MILLER: -- off at that time?
- 6 MR. ROSENBERGER: -- be fenced. That is
- 7 correct.
- MR. MILLER: It's not -- it's not currently
- 9 fenced off.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: No, it is not.
- MR. MILLER: Okay.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: And I -- I just, um -- I
- just want to clarify one point, um, and -- and pose a
- 14 -- a question re -- with regard to the proximity to
- 15 the, um, Holy Redeemer building and the townhomes.
- 16 Are you simply referring to on the north side? Is
- 17 that your -- the fo -- the -- your focus?
- MR. MILLER: No --
- MR. ROSENBERGER: The north side being the
- 20 Jackson Street side.
- MR. MILLER: Well, that happens to be the
- 22 picture I'm looking at right now, but --
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Right.
- MR. MILLER: -- uh, no, I think I was looking
- 25 at the overall development.

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- MR. ROSENBERGER: Okay.
- MR. MILLER: Uh, but -- but I think that is
- 3 the -- the more -- I -- uh, that is the -- I think,
- 4 the more important, um, intersection, um, and the
- 5 more -- so. Is -- is that where there's the 63 or the
- 6 75?
- 7 MR. ROSENBERGER: The north side, which is
- 8 the Jackson Street side, is the 63-foot side.
- 9 MR. MILLER: Right. Um, okay. Um, uh, I have
- 10 no other questions. Thank you very much for your
- 11 presentation.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I -- I, too, was trying to
- 13 get my hands around, when I look at the architecture
- 14 --
- 15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I -- I -- I, too, was
- 16 trying to get my -- my hands wrapped around, um, what
- 17 I was -- the visuals that I was looking at. And I'm
- 18 trying to compare it to things I've seen around the
- 19 city, and also in -- in, uh, Prince George's County.
- Is this something like w -- what's being
- 21 developed -- and I'm -- I'm talking about the
- 22 architecture, now. You go up Route 1, and you see,
- 23 uh, in **0:42:0 (inaudible) -- not **0:43:0
- 24 (Inaudible), but going up Route 1. Is this what --
- what this is kind of going to look like, or is going

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- 1 to look like Morgan Boulevard? What is this going to
- 2 look like? I'm sorry?
- MR. LESSARD: Where about Route 1 that you're
- 4 talking about?
- 5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: When you -- just as you go
- 6 across Eastern Avenue, go up D.C. You know up there
- 7 where the, uh, old -- what's it, Lustine Che -- it's
- 8 been so long. What's --
- 9 MR. LESSARD: Yeah, it's, uh, Hyattsville.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah, in
- 11 Hyattsville. Up -- when you're going up that way
- where the, um, old Chevrolet dealer used to be.
- MR. LESSARD: Yeah, we -- we did that product
- 14 also.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: You did that project?
- 16 Yeah, are these the same type of materials?
- MR. LESSARD: Um, actually, it's more brick
- 18 and -- I mean, there was -- that was more
- 19 contemporary. It had corrugated metal and other
- 20 elements on the product. There's also two builders --
- when Pulte came in, then they were the second
- 22 builder. They -- we didn't do that architecture, and
- 23 then they reduced the quality. But the original
- 24 architecture, it had, uh, less brick -- it had more
- 25 funky materials like, you know, corrugated metal and

- 1 elements, and it was also more, uh, contemporary in
- 2 style, but --
- 3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: But stick -- stick with my
- 4 question. I -- I'm trying to get a feel for it
- 5 because I -- to tell you the truth, I -- I kind of
- 6 associate myself with Commissioner May, and -- and we
- 7 see a lot of PUDs down here, uh, in other
- 8 neighborhoods, and I have issues when certain
- 9 neighborhoods come in -- comes in like that. So I can
- 10 just tell you, straight out, that's just where I am.
- 11 So I'm trying to get a grasp for -- does it look like
- 12 the one in Morgan Boulevard, the one up in
- 13 Hyattsville, going up Route 1. Is -- is that it, or
- 14 -- So I'm -- I'm just trying to get a sense of it,
- 15 because I think Mr., uh -- Commissioner Turnbull used
- 16 -- we need to see life-like sketches of it. I think
- 17 -- is th -- is that what you said? I'm going to have
- 18 to use that one some more. Is that what it --
- MR. TURNBULL: Realistic.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Realistic. And -- and --
- 21 and that's what we look for. This is not the first
- 22 time we've heard that, and -- and -- and to me, I can
- 23 adapt to it and I can understand it better. But when
- 24 I see stuff like what I saw here, I -- I'm -- I -- I
- 25 had a problem. And I didn't know where everybody else

- 1 was until tonight, but I was just trying to figure
- out, okay, well, why is it li -- why is it presented
- 3 like this, when it's in more fi -- or -- or certain
- 4 neighborhoods? Why is it presented like this? Some
- 5 neighborhoods, this would not be accepted.
- 6 MR. LESSARD: The -- the original, um,
- 7 application was more pencil sketched, initially. Um,
- 8 we worked with the Offices -- Office of Planning to
- 9 get, uh, computer renderings, which we do have in the
- 10 set. That's not what we presented because we were
- 11 trying to pesent (sic) -- present an overview.
- Normally, on townhomes, you're doing "this is
- what the street looks like" so you see six- to seven-
- or eight units in whatever the building mass will be.
- 15 What you're asking for -- and we'll be more than
- 16 happy to provide it -- is a computer modeling so you
- 17 can see the entire site at one time, which is what
- 18 you're actually requesting. We do have the computer
- drawings of each stick and each row, but that doesn't
- 20 necessarily address the contextual issue that, um --
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Let -- let me help you
- 22 with what I'm requesting. What -- what r -- what I'm
- 23 requesting is something like I see from other
- 24 developers and other architects when they come in,
- 25 something I can vote on, not the Office of Planning,

- 1 what the Office of Planning vote on, because they
- 2 don't vote. I don't think they vote. But -- eh, they
- 3 do, but it's something so I can vote on.
- I think my colleagues have said it enough, so
- 5 I'm going to get off of architecture. I'm going to
- 6 move on to something -- and I think -- and I don't
- 7 want to throw a -- a monkey wrench in what the
- 8 community has put together, so that's not what I'm
- 9 here to do. But I do want to say -- eh, we can get
- off of that now, thank you.
- 11 Uh, let's go to Edgewood Recreation Center
- 12 35,000 to DPR. Uh, Ms. Roddy, you know the
- 13 Commission. I'm not sure how that's going to be
- 14 administered. Uh, I want to make sure that this
- 15 community -- eh, if this moves forward once we
- 16 straighten out a few things with the -- with the
- 17 width and everything, um -- I want to make sure this
- 18 community gets it, because when you're going to D.C.
- 19 treasures -- treasure around here, it gets lost. So
- 20 how -- you know, the Commission is not in favor of
- 21 these kind of things. How is it going to be
- 22 administered? That needs to be spelled out.
- MS. RODDY: Sure, and we've spoken with DPR
- 24 about this process, and there's actually a very
- 25 involved application process that would tra -- track

- 1 the funds and process that. Um, we were concerned
- 2 about the dedication of the funds to a particular
- 3 use. We wanted it specifically to go to the
- 4 recreation center and to go to some of the equipment
- 5 that would be there so that there would be, um --
- 6 because I'm -- I'm sure some of the residents here
- 7 would be utilizing the res -- uh, the recreation
- 8 center, so that was important to us.
- And the idea is that they're going out to the
- 10 community this fall. I think they're starting this
- month or next month to discuss what the community
- wants to see in terms of equipment. Um, I know that
- there is some talk that they don't want the standard
- 14 football equipment; they want to have something maybe
- a little bit different and, um -- at this recreation
- 16 center, so that will all be determined with the
- 17 community input.
- Um, the actual funding would be tracked
- 19 through DPR. There's an application process, as I
- 20 said, so it would go -- we would work with DPR to
- 21 make sure that --
- 22 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And -- and -- and you know
- 23 this commission -- and I want us to tighten that up,
- 24 because this commission's concern has always been,
- um, while it comes down that way in front of us, and

- 1 then, when the 35,000 goes into DPR -- and I'm not
- 2 saying they would do this -- then it doesn't show up.
- 3 So a lot of times, uh, the -- the dev -- it's
- 4 incumbent upon the developer to work with that and --
- 5 and make sure that those needs or whatever they want
- 6 is -- is into the -- the rec.
- So I -- I'm s -- I'd rather see it done that
- 8 way than this pool of money going to DPR, and I think
- we've done that in other cases. It's where the -- it
- 10 -- it's administered, and it doesn't go into that big
- 11 pot and gets lost. Because it might just show up, and
- 12 they might just get 17,000. They -- I think this
- 13 community wants the full 35. That -- that's just my
- 14 point. Uh, that's -- that's what we've done in the
- 15 past, for other cases, how it's administered, and I
- 16 -- I'd like for us to look at this -- look at that.
- 17 Once you come back -- I think you're going to have to
- 18 come back with some things. Let's come back with how
- we're going to administer this.
- MS. RODDY: Mm-hmm.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay? And I'm not in fond
- of putting it into DPR's pot. Okay? That's just an
- 23 example. Everything else on here, I think, is -- is
- 24 pretty -- pretty much -- Again, how all this is going
- to be administered is the big deal, the big issue,

- 1 for me.
- Um, Mr. Van Pelt, you thought you was going
- 3 to get away tonight, didn't you?
- 4 MR. VAN PELT: No, sir.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Let's -- let's put up
- 6 that, uh -- it's a -- it's a slide. You have it all
- 7 in red and showing me all the pedestrian (sic) and
- 8 the vehicle (sic) and how it's going to move around.
- 9 Let's put that up, and take me around this site. Show
- me how non-congested it's go -- it's going to be.
- MR. VAN PELT: Okay. So, on this slide, north
- is to our, uh, right, and then -- So we have Jackson
- 13 Street, 7th Street. Uh, there'll be two access points
- into the -- into the site. There are actually two
- there today. There's one off of 7th Street, in pretty
- much this exact same location, uh, and then there'd
- 17 be a driveway access point off of Jackson Street. Uh,
- 18 today, the driveway's somewhere in the middle of the
- 19 block here. Um, so we'll have the same number of curb
- 20 cuts, but they'll be -- so there'll -- there'll be
- two curb cuts, uh, to access the site. Um, we've
- 22 coordinated those with -- with DDOT, in our
- 23 conversations with them. They'll be designed as
- 24 driveways, and so they'll have flush, um, sidewalks
- 25 as you go across.

- What you're looking at in, um, all of the red
- 2 here is showing all of the pedestrian circulation
- 3 pathways, um, so, you know, we're showing the -- the
- 4 two crosswalks here at the intersection of 7th and
- Jackson, but there's crosswalks actually on each
- 6 approach to that intersection, and curb ramps. Um,
- 7 and then you'll have -- each of the -- the townhomes
- 8 along, uh, Jackson Street will have the -- their lead
- 9 walks into the front of those, uh, townhomes.
- 10 Um, there's circulation that comes around ba
- 11 -- behind the back side of the site. Uh, there's the
- 12 -- the front access into the Holy Redeemer building.
- 13 Um, and then there's -- you continue with the
- 14 sidewalk, all the way down, uh, 7th Street, uh, and
- 15 then you have the lead walks into those units.
- 16 There's a sidewalk as you continue back in the site
- and then continues into the muse, and then you
- 18 continue back further, and there's sidewalks that
- 19 take you into the -- the lead walks into the front of
- 20 those townhomes.
- Um, from a vehicular standpoint, um, these 13
- townhomes will have access off of 7th Street, um, and
- 23 it's really just those 13 townhomes off of this
- 24 point, and then the parking in the -- into the Holy
- 25 Redeemer building will enter there, exit out this

- 1 way, um, and so you'll have traffic coming out of the
- 2 Holy Redeemer parking, exiting out to 7th Street, and
- 3 it's really just these townhomes that will be
- 4 entering and exiting off of this, um, driveway at 7th
- 5 Street.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Uh, the Holy Redeemer --
- 7 is -- are they o -- is there overflow parking? Like
- 8 if the neighbors want to park on -- will they be able
- 9 to park in the -- on the parking lot at the Holy Rede
- 10 -- do we know --
- MR. VAN PELT: I think that that's -- I think
- 12 that's a question more for, um -- I think for the
- 13 Holy Redeemer -- for -- maybe for Andrew to address,
- 14 but --
- MR. ROSENBERGER: It's, um -- it is not set
- up that way now. Uh, I don't think it is the intent
- of the Holy Redeemer -- um, the Redemptorists to have
- 18 that, um, available for parking. Um, as -- as it's
- 19 shown now, there -- there are proposed to be, um,
- 20 gates on those areas, um, basically to sequester the,
- 21 um -- the parking specifically for the Holy Re -- for
- 22 the Holy Redeemer.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right, um, what
- 24 -- what -- I think there was, uh, uh -- we -- we --
- we received a submission about green space, and the

- 1 trees. Can -- can you comment on that? About the
- 2 green space and all the trees we're getting rid of,
- 3 and what we're doing? Can -- can you comment on that?
- 4 I don't know if you -- you all are familiar with
- 5 this, Ms. -- Uh, which exhibit is that? Exhibit 36?
- Ms. Roddy, can you all -- I mean, can
- 7 somebody comment on that -- your architect --
- 8 landscape architect? That's right, he was proffered
- 9 as a -- I forgot. What -- what were you proffered as?
- 10 Oh, you wanted to be a civil engineer, but you're
- 11 really a lands -- can you -- can you comment --
- MR. FROST: I play one on TV.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. You're playing both
- 14 roles, so --
- MR. FROST: I'm intimately familiar with the
- 16 GAR requirements of the site, so -- Uh, basically,
- what we are proposing on this site is, uh, 88 trees
- and -- o -- in excess of 800 shrubs. There are two
- 19 large bioretention facilities in addition to these
- 20 plantings that will be included on-site.
- 21 Furthermore, all of the alleys -- and this
- will address some of the drainage questions by Mr.
- 23 Turnbull earlier -- uh, are proposed to be permeable
- 24 pavers, um, so they will address some of the
- 25 stormwater management for this site, as well as be a

- 1 low-impact design feature on-site. Um, they will, due
- 2 to the soil conditions, have an underdrain, so -- uh,
- 3 that will provide the water to flow into the
- 4 bioretention facilities as an overflow.
- The green space on the site, uh, meets -- uh,
- 6 actually exceeds a little bit -- the GAR requirements
- of the .3 for this property, uh, and this is in
- 8 addition to some of the green space that we're
- 9 proposing to keep as a lawn for the Redemptorists
- 10 property.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And -- and you may have
- 12 had -- You -- you're going to exceed our .3
- 13 requirements, so what are -- what are you looking at?
- 14 Like, what variable?
- MR. FROST: It's -- uh, I -- I think it's .31
- 16 right now, just with the number that we're doing.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, you're exceeding it.
- 18 You're exceeding it. Okay.
- MR. FROST: Yes, we are exceeding it, but --
- 20 (Laughter)
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Point three-one, okay.
- 22 Um --
- MR. FROST: Yes, I'm sorry, um, one other
- 24 thing: We are pro -- proposing to preserve the trees
- 25 along 7th Street Northeast, uh, the sidewalks that --

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- 1 there's a missing connection of sidewalk there. It's
- 2 actually kind of a gravel pos -- gravel sidewalk now.
- 3 That proposed sidewalk will be done partially in
- 4 permeable pavement to allow for the minimal impact to
- 5 the existing trees along 7th Street.
- In addition to that, we're trying to save as
- 7 many trees as -- well, not trying, we will be saving
- 8 the trees in front of the Redemptorists property. Uh,
- g they will not be touched, and any further trees along
- 10 the western property line that are -- have been
- 11 deemed acceptable will remain.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. I think, in the
- 13 letter, they recognize that you're going to pres --
- 14 you're going to preserve the -- uh, the trees on 7th
- 15 Street.
- Let -- let me ask you about the bioretention.
- 17 Uh, what is the maintenance plan for that? I mean --
- or does it -- I'm sure it requires maintenance, but
- 19 how many years? Like tw -- is it a 20-year -
- 20 about --
- MR. FROST: I think it is a 20-year
- 22 maintenance-free --
- 23 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Twenty years.
- MR. FROST: --method they go into, yes.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Um, a --

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- 1 again, I'm hoping that you will go back and look at
- this project, um, as -- as my colleagues have already
- mentioned. Um, that's all the questions that I have.
- 4 Uh, Commissioner May?
- MR. MAY: Yeah, thank you. Um, you know, some
- of the questions ca -- that came from my colleagues,
- 7 um, prompted a couple of thur -- further thoughts.
- Um, uh, first of all, um, in your testimony,
- 9 Mr. Le -- Lessard, I think you described the
- 10 buildings an -- as being, um, four sided, and, again,
- 11 I'm -- I'm particularly concerned about the building
- to the north, um, which is not really four sided in
- 13 terms of the finishes. It's more like three-and-a-
- quarter, because you're wrapping, sort of, around the
- 15 corner, but not -- not all the way.
- And I think it is very important that we
- understand what's going on, on the back of those
- 18 buildings and -- and that -- I mean, if this project
- is going to go forward, the -- the back side of the
- 20 buildings should look every bit as good as the front
- 21 side of the buildings because of it's -- the way that
- it faces the, um, uh -- the Redemptorists' building.
- 23 Um, so it -- it really does need to be a four-sided
- 24 building, not -- not three-and-a-quarter, or whatever
- 25 it is.

- Um, I -- I also think that, um, Commissioner
- 2 Cohen, Vice-Chairman Cohen was onto something with
- 3 regard to the rehabilitation of the -- of the college
- 4 building into housing. And I don't -- you know, I
- 5 understand that you're not -- you're -- you're -- the
- 6 thinking process hasn't progressed enough, but I
- 7 think it's really unfortunate that what we're talking
- 8 about is, you know, cutting off some of the -- the,
- g as it was referred to, "unused land." Um, I would
- 10 argue that land with grass and trees on it is not
- unused, but that's beside the point.
- Um, the, uh, uh -- but using this -- you
- 13 know, slicing off this land and then populating it
- 14 with houses is the wrong approach, in that this site
- should be developed holistically and that the future
- use of the college building should be determined, and
- it would logically be part of this development. And
- we have seen things like that in this city, where you
- 19 take an old school building -- maybe not one as big
- 20 as this, or as grand as this, at least on the
- 21 exterior -- and it becomes -- it gets renovated into
- 22 condominiums, and -- and then the rest of the site is
- developed into townhouses, and it's done in a more
- 24 sensitive way, frankly, than this has been done.
- So, I think that idea has a lot of promise.

- 1 Um, and I know that would mean putting this project
- on hold for a couple of years while you -- that gets
- 3 figured out, and that may not be, um, what the
- 4 Redemptorists want to do; I understand that. But I'm
- 5 just saying that might be the right thing to do.
- The, um, last thing is that if this project
- 7 does go forward as townhouses, the way it is, I think
- 8 that, at the very least, the number of townhouses has
- 9 to be significantly reduced. I'd say, at the very
- 10 least, um, for the north -- north building, the first
- 11 four townhouses, the ones closest to 7th Street, need
- 12 to go away. So you lose four townhouses there, and
- 13 then the building ha -- the -- the existing
- building has a greater, um, prominence in the
- 15 context.
- I would also suggest that you should probably
- 17 lose six of the south buildings -- two in the first
- 18 pairing closest to 7th Street -- you know, one at --
- 19 at the end of each row -- and then two more in the
- 20 other rows. And if you did something like that, you
- 21 might be within -- you might be creating a project
- 22 that's reasonable in terms of its treatment of the
- 23 existing building.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I appreciate those
- 25 suggestions that I heard but, you know, y'all have a

- 1 hard job, because that's one row. But anyway, I -- I
- 2 just think -- I just think it needs to come back, um,
- 3 in a different scheme. That's just kind of where I
- 4 am, and I'm sure that's where the other colleagues
- 5 are. If those are the suggestions, you want to take
- 6 Commissioner May's suggestions, uh, something to get
- 7 started, I think, is great, so.
- 8 Um, any other questions up here? Let's see
- 9 if, uh, Chairperson Quinn has any cross-examination.
- 10 Any cross --
- MS. QUINN: My mic on?
- 12 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: You did it by yourself.
- 13 You may begin.
- MS. QUINN: All right. So, I have questions
- about the park. I understand that, uh, you're leaving
- it up to the homeowners' association, but I -- I want
- 17 to understand what the possibilities with that are.
- 18 Is it possible that the homeowners' association may
- 19 restrict the use of that park?
- 20 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Did you -- let me ask you
- 21 this: Did you identify yourself?
- MS. QUINN: No.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, I -- I identified
- 24 you, so --
- MS. QUINN: You did.

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1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: -- could you identify

- 2 yourself?
- MS. QUINN: Sure, Teri Janine Quinn, Chair of
- 4 ANC 5E.
- MR. ROSENBERGER: Um, to -- to address that
- 6 question, um, as I said, it -- it would be --- the --
- 7 the -- the property, uh, would be maintained and
- 8 owned by the homeowners' association. Uh, the
- 9 possibility remains that they could, uh, in the
- 10 future, um, make some alterations to the park, um,
- 11 you know, if there are issues that come up down the
- 12 road. Uh, I don't think it would be appropriate to
- 13 automatically restrict, uh, you know -- You know, if
- 14 there are problems down the road with that -- with
- that area, uh, and they need to take action to
- address those, uh, I don't think it would be
- 17 appropriate to prevent that, uh, restriction and
- 18 perpetuating a potential problem.
- MS. QUINN: So I -- I quess I -- I don't
- 20 think I got a real answer. Is it possible that the
- 21 HOA could restrict use of the park?
- MR. ROSENBERGER: It is possible.
- MS. QUINN: Okay. That's -- that's what I was
- looking for. And, um, Chairman Hood mentioned a
- 25 filing of some neighbors who had concerns about green

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- 1 space. I -- I do want to know, what interaction have
- you all had with those neighbors? Have you resolved
- those issues, or do those issues still exist?
- MS. RODDY: Well, the filing, I believe,
- was made at 4:30 this afternoon, so I would say that
- 6 the -- we have not had an opportunity to resolve
- 7 those concerns. We have met with the neighbors. Um,
- 8 we did the presentation with Chancellor's Row. We
- 9 have been in contact with their, um -- their
- 10 homeowners' association for well over -- I would say
- may -- over a month at this point. Like, it's been a
- 12 -- we've had a lot of co -- correspondence back and
- 13 forth with them, um, and we will work to do that, as
- 14 we said this evening.
- Um, we feel that the green space that we are
- 16 providing -- You know, this property and project has
- 17 a 27-percent lot occupancy, so we have a significant
- 18 amount of space that is still open. We are preserving
- 19 that lawn in the front. We have heard the comments,
- 20 obviously, from the Commission tonight about the work
- that we do need to do, but we have been taking some
- 22 efforts to, um, preserve the trees that are on the
- 23 site, as well as provide additional amenity green
- 24 space on the property. Okay.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Ms. Roddy, let me just

- say, it's stamped into this office -- I'm not showing
- it was uploaded -- stamped into this office for 2
- October 28, at 12:13. 3
- MS. RODDY: We -- we actually -- we checked 4
- this morning, and I checked this afternoon, and it 5
- had not been uploaded at the point when I uploaded 6
- the PowerPoint. 7
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, it may not have been 8
- uploaded, but --
- MS. RODDY: I -- we understand that --10
- **20:17:0 (Inaudible) CHAIRPERSON HOOD: 11
- MS. RODDY: We -- when we met with them --12
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Just in case they're 13
- watching, I don't want them to think that this office 14
- didn't put their stuff up until today at 4:30 because 15
- it -- I want it --16
- MS. SCHELLIN: I think she's correct. 17
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We get in enough trouble. 18
- MS. SCHELLIN: The -- I -- I --19
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Didn't get put up until 20
- 12:30 --21
- MS. SCHELLIN: I -- think it was brought 22
- to --23
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, you received it --24
- you received it, though, yesterday. That's my point. 25

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- MS. SCHELLIN: Right, because I think my
- 2 staff brought it to my attention and asked about it,
- and I said it needed to be uploaded, so she is
- 4 correct.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, if you're watching,
- 6 Streamline, you can call the office and speak to the
- 7 director. Anyway. Go right ahead.
- MS. QUINN: No further questions.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you very much.
- 10 Uh, let's go to the Office of Planning and DDOT, and
- 11 then we'll ask our questions on the backend.
- MS. VITALE: Good evening, Mr. Chair, Members
- of the Commission. The Office of Planning will rest
- on the record, and we're available to answer any
- 15 questions that you might have. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you very much,
- office of Planning. Um, Mr. Westrom?
- MR. WESTROM: Thank you. Good evening,
- 19 Commissioner. This is Ryan Westrom for DDOT, and, uh,
- 20 as with the Office of Planning, we, uh -- we're, uh,
- 21 content to rest on the record. I would like to
- 22 acknowledge the -- the fact that the applicant did
- work closely with us in regards to several of the
- 24 transportation elements, and we were pleased with
- 25 some of the modifications that -- that came about as

- 1 part of that process. Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you.
- 3 Colleagues, any questions of the Office of Planning
- 4 or DDOT? Vice-Chair Cohen?
- MS. COHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a
- 6 question with regard to, again, the width of the
- 7 townhouse. Again, I -- I walk around Capitol Hill; I
- 8 see very tiny houses that are, you know, cute, but I
- 9 -- I -- I'm not familiar with the 14-foot in any
- other neighborhood. Can you help me -- uh, are you
- 11 familiar with any, um, particular development that
- measures the same way?
- MS. STEINGASSER: Well, as -- as the
- 14 applicant pointed out, the -- the townhouse
- development surrounding this one does have 14-foot
- 16 row houses integrated into it. I think we could also
- 17 take a look at some of the other neighborhoods, but
- 18 they're certainly in Capitol Hill. The older
- 19 neighborhoods have even -- even smaller ones, but
- 20 it's -- it's -- It's not common, but it's not
- 21 uncommon.
- MS. COHEN: But it's part of a larger
- 23 property, development? I mean, it's not every single
- one is fourt -- is it? Well, if you can provide that,
- 25 that would be helpful.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Does anybody else have any
- questions either, Office of Planning -- Mr. Turnbull?
- MR. TURNBULL: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I've just got
- 4 a quick question for Mr. Westrom. Um, you have -- and
- 5 I didn't -- I'm not -- On page eight of your report,
- 6 you had four items on your strategies. I didn't go
- 7 through everything with the applicant and look at
- 8 those, but are we doing -- is the applicant doing all
- 9 of this that you requested?
- MR. WESTROM: Yes. So, you're referring to
- 11 the TDM strategies that were --
- MR. TURNBULL: The T -- TDM strategies.
- MR. WESTROM: -- identified --
- MR. TURNBULL: Right.
- MR. WESTROM: -- by the applicant, and one of
- 16 -- one of the conditions that -- that we asked for
- was, indeed, that they adhere to these, and we were
- 18 satisfied with their robustness, and they have
- 19 acknowledged that, indeed, they plan to agree to all
- 20 of the things that we asked for.
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay.
- MR. WESTROM: Thank you for confirming.
- MR. TURNBULL: No transit screen, though. I'm
- 24 just joking.
- MR. WESTROM: That's exactly right.

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- 1 MR. TURNBULL: I'm joking. I'm joking.
- MR. WESTROM: With the townhouse products --
- 3 (Laughter)
- 4 MR. WESTROM: -- that is not typically the,
- 5 uh -- typically the TDM of -- of choice.
- 6 MR. TURNBULL: We thank you.
- 7 MR. WESTROM: Our aim is always only to
- 8 include TDM majors that are effectual, and, uh,
- 9 certainly, that's what we seek, and sought, with this
- 10 applicant.
- MR. TURNBULL: Well, I -- I'm glad to see
- that the applicant, uh, is -- **24:00:0 (Inaudible)
- is going along with everything.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Let's see, do we got
- any other questions or comments? Okay, does the
- 16 applicant ha -- does the applicant have any -- does
- 17 the applicant have any -- These smart phones are too
- 18 smart. Does the applicant have any, uh,
- 19 cross-examination, the Office of Planning or DDOT?
- 20 Okay, uh, does the Chair have any?
- MS. COHEN: I do not.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Let's go to, uh --
- 23 Did we have any other reports of other government
- 24 agencies other than DDOT report? Yeah, I'm trying to
- 25 figure out what's going on with DO -- I guess --

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- 1 well, anyway, we'll -- we'll talk about that later.
- 2 Uh, see if we can fa -- figure out what's going on
- 3 with DOE. One time, they were consistent. I guess --
- 4 I don't know. We'll -- we'll figure that out.
- 5 Uh, let's go to the report of the ANC.
- 6 Chairperson Quinn, you may begin.
- MS. QUINN: Well, I'm going to keep it pretty
- 8 short. Um, as is already on the record, we did hear
- 9 from this group, I want to say three times, and, uh,
- our final vote was unanimous. We had some questions
- 11 about the amenities package, which they were able to
- answer adequately. Um, not much in the way of
- 13 questions with regard to design, and we did not, as I
- 14 recall, hear any opposition from the community,
- 15 directly, so certainly not in our ANC meetings. We
- 16 did -- uh, that -- that's when -- when I say we
- 17 didn't hear any opposition, there was no one in the
- audience who stood up and said, "I've got a problem
- with this, " and the representations that we had was
- 20 that there had not been negative input from the
- 21 community. And the vote was unanimous.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you. Let's see
- 23 if we have any questions of the Chairperson, ANC 5E
- 24 -- any questions? Does the applicant have any cross?
- 25 Thank you very much. We appreciate all the work you

- 1 all did.
- MS. QUINN: No problem.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, let's go to, um --
- 4 do we have any organizations or persons who -- I
- 5 actually have a list, but let me just do this: Do we
- 6 have any organizations or person who are here in
- 5 support?
- 8 Okay, uh, Ms. Steiner, would you like to come
- 9 up and -- Am I pronouncing it -- is it Smith-Steiner
- or Steiner? I want to make sure I get it correct. I'm
- 11 glad your mic wasn't on for that one, so, anyway --
- 12 You may begin.
- MS. STEINER: Um, good evening. Uh, first,
- 14 Sharon, before you start that clock, let me just say,
- 15 Mr. Turnbull, you must have ha -- you have to have a
- 16 matador in your family, and Anthony Hood, I
- 17 appreciate you. Marcie and Robert, you know how we
- 18 all fit, as far as affordable housing, and that was
- one of the key things that my community really wanted
- to see. And thank you, Mr. May, for being on top of
- 21 the architectural design, because we do not want -- I
- 22 don't want to say "trash" -- but we don't -- we want
- 23 something that is comparable that represents what's
- 24 going on in the entire city.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Could you identify

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- 1 yourself? Even though I did --
- MS. STEINER: Thank you, um, Chairman Hood.
- 3 My name is Debbie Steiner, ANC Commissioner for 5E01.
- 4 Um, I appreciate the opportunity to speak before you
- 5 in support of this project.
- The main two reasons why I am supporting this
- 7 project is because, Marcie, y'all -- ya'll have heard
- 8 me, several times, come down here about affordable
- 9 housing. You know how we need affordable housing.
- 10 Um, Mr. May opened up my eyes to a lot of
- 11 things that we do not want substantial (sic)
- materials being used, especially when the Redemptors
- 13 (sic) are getting money that they're not paying any
- taxes on, and then especially with the people who are
- making this development are going to get a
- 16 substantial amount of money. So, we do want a
- 17 quality, uh, product.
- As now being a realtor, as far as the ADA
- 19 situation that the gentleman had mentioned, I would
- 20 question that, but I would also think that people in
- 21 this arena would want to go above and beyond to help
- 22 those who are looking for housing in the District of
- 23 Columbia.
- We are at a crossroads here currently in the
- 25 District, as you well know, as far as getting

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- 1 affordable housing. Everybody, uh, is trying to find
- 2 someplace to live, to be able to enjoy the amenities
- 3 that we are receiving in the District of Columbia.
- 4 Uh, the Brookland Community -- that I do not
- 5 re -- re -- uh, reference as "Edgewood," because in
- 6 the subdivision, uh, information, it says,
- 7 "Brookwood" (sic) -- um, "Brookland" -- has been very
- 8 instrumental as far as having, uh, uplifted our
- 9 community, whereas we are seeing new residents, and
- we are getting amenities. When it was, uh, being
- 11 advertised as "Edgewood," if you go into the -- a --
- anything re -- referencing "Edgewood," it was always
- 13 referencing a "Little Beirut." But we're getting
- 14 beyond that.
- My whole thing right now is that our
- 16 community needs to have individuals who are coming
- into our area that are going to develop projects and
- 18 properties such as that they are going to be livable
- 19 for families. We are not trying to have every
- 20 individual who wants to be single, uh, and coming
- 21 from California and all these other places to just
- 22 flock here and push our families out.
- Marcie, you know we have talked -- and
- 24 Anthony, we have talked millions of times about the
- 25 need to save and help a lot of these people in our

- 1 communities. I want our project to be the best that
- 2 it can be, architecturally sound, and ensure that we
- 3 have space for our families to be able to enjoy
- 4 because, at the end of the day, it's going to be on
- 5 us to ensure that.
- And then another key thing that I would just
- 7 like to also, um, uh, have, um, on the record that I
- 8 feel as though it's very, very necessary: Um, I would
- 9 like for y'all, if y'all get an opportunity in y'all
- 10 busy day, to check with some of the EYA Chancellor
- 11 (sic) residents to see how, after 6 -- 7- or 8 months
- with those projects, they are falling apart. I have
- 13 gotten millions of calls how they are just not, um,
- 14 feasible, how the walls are having problems, how, you
- know, they're having a lot of issues. So, my thing is
- that, um, between the Redemptors (sic) and, um,
- 17 Madison Homes, they need to have some type of a
- 18 design of money whereas when these individuals have
- 19 home problems of structural problems, that they have
- 20 money to, you know, take care of that, uh, process.
- 21 And then, Anthony, on your issue as far as,
- 22 um -- with, uh, D.C. Recs and how that money's to be
- 23 administered, I had asked, um, Ms. Roddy to have the
- 24 Community Foundation to set up a process to allow
- 25 that money to be, um -- to go through them so that

- 1 they can, uh, actually, uh, distribute that money so
- that we'll be able to have an accounting.
- And especially the money with DPR, because a
- 4 lot of people with -- in the community said that they
- 5 don't want to see money to go to rackets and balls
- and games and everything that are always lost. They
- 7 wanted some strong fixture like -- something that you
- 8 can see and feel, and they also want to try to work
- on getting, maybe, um, racquetballs or, um, handball
- 10 courts -- some things that other kids can get some
- 11 energy, more so than trying to be a Michael Jordan
- or, uh, some other football player. So, thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you, uh, very
- much, Ms. Steiner, uh -- oh, no, excuse me,
- 15 Commissioner Steiner. Uh, colleagues, any questions
- or comments? Ms Cohen?
- MS. COHEN: I actually -- um, there are
- warranties when, um -- for certain things in -- in
- 19 houses when they've been constructed. So every time
- 20 somebody calls you, you need to make sure that they
- look into their warranties, what they're entitled to.
- 22 I don't know how long ago, um, the property was
- 23 constructed and --
- MS. STEINER: Three and a half.
- MS. COHEN: Well, still, on some things,

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- there may be warranties, and -- and they need to
- really focus on that and -- and see if they can, uh,
- 3 recoup some of the -- or -- or address some of their
- 4 issues.
- MS. STEINER: Okay, thank you. I appreciate
- 6 that. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, thank you. Any other
- 8 questions? Let's see, does the applicant have any
- g cross-exams? Do you have any cross?
- MS. RODDY: No.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, thank you very much.
- 12 We appreciate it.
- MS. STEINER: Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, let's go to
- organizations and persons in opposition. I do have,
- uh, Mr. Edward Garnett, uh, Mr. Michael Clark
- 17 representing the Edgewood -- Edge -- Edgewood Civic
- 18 Association, and Tracy Caswell. And I have -- I think
- it's -- is it Schultz? Is it Deborah or Donna? Is
- 20 anybody's last name "Schultz"? Okay, Mr. Schultz,
- 21 come forward. You're here -- are you in opposition or
- 22 support?
- MR. SCHULTZ: Opposition.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Okay. Uh, if -- if
- 25 -- all those who, uh, want to come up in opposition,

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- 1 come forward. Is Edward Garnett, Edward Garnett here?
- 2 Anybody who's in opposition of this, if you can come
- 3 forward. Come -- come forward.
- Okay, we're going to let, uh, Chairperson
- 5 Quinn stay right there. I'm sure she's not going to
- 6 testify in opposition after she just testified in
- 7 support.
- 8 MS. QUINN: -- not to.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Oh, she's going to try not
- 10 to. Oh yeah, she might have cross, so she can stay
- 11 there. Ms. Roddy might have to come back up.
- Okay. Well, we're going to start, uh, with
- 13 Mr. Clark first.
- MR. CLARK: Good evening, Chairman Hood, all
- 15 the Members of the Commission. Thank you for having
- me here tonight to speak on the matter of, uh, Case
- No. 15-02, MHI-Brookland, LLC. Uh, let me preface
- 18 this by saying the Edgewood Civic Association is not
- against the overall plan of this unit, but we are in
- 20 opposition to the amenities package that has been
- 21 presented before the community.
- 22 The Edgewood -- I'm sorry. The Edgewood Civic
- 23 Association does not support the community amenities
- 24 package that Madison Homes has placed in this
- 25 package. It is very unfortunate that this amenities

- 1 package was not negotiated with the community, but
- 2 was a deal between M -- MHI and the ANC 5E01
- 3 commissioner. There was not a publicly-announced
- 4 community meeting to discuss these -- this amenities
- 5 package in order to allow the community to weigh in
- 6 on it.
- 7 Mr. Rosenberger -- Mr. Rosenberg (sic) has
- 8 presented twice to the Edgewood Civic Association,
- 9 and we, at both times -- at the first time, we did
- only mention the placement of two signs in the
- 11 Edgewood Community that would say "Welcome to -- to
- 12 the community." I, along with a member of the
- 13 Edgewood Civic Association Board, met with Mr.
- 14 Rosenberg at a pro -- at the -- at the proposed site
- to discuss the amenity package as it relates to the
- 16 signs, and we gave him our plans with the cost, uh,
- of the package as it relates to the sign in the costs
- 18 from that meeting.
- We were led to believe that this could be
- 20 inclusive with the package, at a cost of less than 25
- 21 hundred dollars. We did also mention that there might
- 22 be needs for the recreation center but did not
- 23 provide a dollar amount for such. MHI presented at
- 24 the September 15 ANC 5E meeting, and the ANC 5E voted
- 25 in support of the project.

- I got there late to that meeting, uh, in the
- 2 middle of that meeting. Uh, Mr. Rosenberg was
- 3 presenting. We talked afterwards, and I asked him
- 4 about it, and that point, he said he didn't want to
- 5 get into community dispute about the name of the
- 6 community.
- So, as I continue, I thought that these
- 8 amenity package would go to the -- Let me go back. I
- 9 thought the -- the city was getting away from these
- 10 backdoor deals with developers so that the
- 11 communities could get amenities that are more
- 12 substantial for the community. I thought that these
- amenities would go to the ANC that's in record, not
- 14 to organizations in Ward 5 or all over the city. I
- 15 did invite the Brookland Edgewood Collaborative to
- 16 that October meet -- meeting to discuss their job,
- uh, readiness program, because that was a concern of
- 18 some of the residents at our September meeting, I --
- 19 but I did not get a response back from them.
- I sincerely hope that, with the coming
- 21 development in Ward 5 and in Edgewood Community, this
- 22 commission would take a closer look at these project
- 23 amenity packages, because we have to live with these
- 24 projects long after developers are gone.
- With respect to the name of the community, I

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- 1 think that Mr. Rosenberg should have come back to us
- 2 to ask if there was a problem with the name of the
- 3 community. The Edgewood Civic Association has been in
- 4 existence since 1953 and is a longstanding member of
- 5 the D.C. Federation of Civic Associations. This
- 6 project, though named "Brookland," sets within the
- 7 boundaries of the Edgewood Civic Association and the
- 8 Edgewood Community. There is no dispute on the name
- 9 of the community. This project is not in Brookland,
- 10 but in Edgewood. Thank you for your time.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, thank you. Um, next
- 12 -- hold your seat; we may have some questions. Next.
- MR. DESIDERIO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
- 14 name is Duane Desiderio -- excuse me -- I'm a
- resident of the Chancellor's Row development, and I'd
- 16 like to, um, emphasize three overriding concerns that
- 17 I have with the, uh, project as proposed.
- One certainly concerns the historic view of
- 19 the Redemptorist building, um, even with some of the
- 20 site designs that were shown today. As my
- understanding, the -- the reason one would want to
- 22 designate a -- a structure as historic is to preserve
- 23 the facade, and with the way that this building
- 24 appears to be sandwiched in on, uh -- on -- on three
- 25 sides, particularly on the Jackson Avenue (sic) side

- 1 -- uh, the Jackson Street side, I -- I think it
- 2 prevents the community from just enjoying that view.
- 3 I don't know anyone who can enjoy that view
- 4 considering the proximity of the -- the units to the
- 5 building itself. I don't think the residents can even
- 6 enjoy that view. So I think that's a shame. Um, I do
- 7 think, in that regard, there's -- the density of
- 8 townhouses, particularly along Jackson Street, is, uh
- 9 -- is -- is just too much and -- and that's something
- 10 that needs to be considered.
- 11 And I just wonder if the sequence were such
- 12 that the building were designated as historic first
- 13 -- It strikes me as a little odd that it's late in
- 14 the process. I wonder how that might affect the
- 15 decision if the structure were designated as historic
- 16 first, and then the site plan and the development
- were put before the Committee. Um, that's the first
- 18 point that I wanted to address.
- Number two, in terms of sustainability -- Um,
- 20 it had been an amenity that -- why I wanted to
- 21 purchase in Chancellor's Row was because those units
- were lead certified. Um, they did get to issues like
- the products that were used in the site. Um, at a
- 24 community hearing -- uh, a -- a community meeting
- where I recently, uh, asked that question, uh, you

- 1 know, the -- the question was posed that, you know,
- the buildings might be Energy-Star rated, which is
- 3 good -- you know, they're -- they're energy
- 4 efficient, but most new construction is inherently
- 5 energy efficient, anyway. Lead certification would
- 6 get to other more sustainability aspects of the site,
- 7 so I think that's something that should be
- 8 considered.
- And second -- uh, the -- the third point --
- 10 excuse me -- is with regard to parking, particularly
- 11 during the construction phase. Um, the -- the Bozzuto
- 12 project that's being constructed right now actually
- 13 has a big chunk of -- of the street frontage blocked,
- and with this construction, particularly along
- Jackson Street, I don't know if there have been any
- 16 plans to -- to stop that during the construction of
- 17 those townhouses if that were to happen. There'd be
- 18 -- uh, no one would be able to get into Chancellor's
- 19 Row from that particular area.
- But even after it's constructed, with the
- overflow parking, that is a major -- the major area
- of -- of -- of ingress into Chancellor's Row, and I
- 23 think there will be a concern with community parking
- 24 back in the Chancellor's Row development, where the
- 25 HOA does, for that particular development -- does --

- 1 does pay for those roads, and of course, there can be
- 2 better enforcement to make sure that the people with
- 3 parking permits can use those developments. But I
- 4 think that is a natural place for overflow, and
- 5 particularly if we're also talking about converting
- 6 the -- the -- the actual building itself, at some
- 7 point, uh, to residence. Where do those building --
- 8 where do those cars go, as well? So, I think that's a
- 9 concern. But thank you very much for the time.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Uh, were you finished or
- 11 not? You can keep going. We don't have many
- 12 witnesses.
- MR. DESIDERIO: I'm -- I'm through, thank
- 14 you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, not all night, but
- 16 you can keep going right now.
- MR. DESIDERIO: I'm through, sir. Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Next.
- MR. SCHULTZ: Thank you very much. My name is
- 20 Derek Schultz. I live at 3121 7th Street Northeast,
- 21 which is right across from, uh, the homes on Jackson.
- 12 I'm the corner lot. Um, I live there with my fiancé,
- 23 uh, and I --
- Just, first off, I want to say, I'm not fully
- opposed to the development; I'm opposed to it as it

- 1 currently stands. Uh, and I do really appreciate the
- 2 adjustments that have been made so far, and all the
- work, uh, Commissioner Steiner and the rest of the
- 4 ANC has done on it. Um, it definitely has some
- 5 improvements done through their work, and I, um --
- 6 but I feel it has some shortcomings, still.
- 7 Um, so, like I said, I'm right acro -- we're
- 8 right across from it. Uh, our house, and our hou --
- 9 home is actually an American four-square, which is a
- standalone, you know, single-family property, you
- 11 know, roughly, you know, twenty-four-feet high, not
- included in any of the photos on the context slides,
- and we're right across from where it is. Um, if this
- was deliberate, I don't know, but it definitely --
- uh, it doesn't fully provide the full context of the
- 16 area.
- And this is especially true if you go down
- 7th Street further. I mean, these are, uh -- if you
- 19 know what an American four-square is, it's just a --
- 20 a small, you know, pretty, uh, common-looking home,
- um, but, you know, it's completely different than
- these townhomes in the scale and the massing that's
- 23 going on here. So, uh, you know, the ma -- one of
- our, you know, concerns is, uh, the height of the
- 25 homes itself, especially on Jackson Street. I mean,

- 1 these are going to be, at least from the drawings, I
- 2 could tell, 41 feet high, um, and especially, uh --
- 3 You know, this just exceeds the properties in the
- 4 area, like I mentioned.
- 5 Um, you know, I provided some exhibits, and
- 6 my testimony here of what our home looks like, and,
- 7 you know -- and even the Chandler's (sic) Row -- In
- 8 the Chandler's (sic) Row, at least, the top floor,
- 9 the fourth floor, is set back from the, uh, front of
- 10 the facade. These -- uh, the facade, it's a full way
- up. It's a wall on your street. Um, so that's a
- 12 concern of ours.
- 13 Uh, in addition to that, Lot 1, which is the
- 14 furthest on, uh -- furthest down to the east on, uh,
- 15 Jackson Street, has roughly a 5-foot increase at the
- base of it, um, because of the elevation, to be in
- 17 line with the rest of the adjacent units. So, I mean,
- 18 you're pushing even more height right at the end
- 19 there, which is even more an obstruction and just,
- 20 you know, uh, sticks out, uh, when compared to the
- 21 historic building.
- So that's a concern of ours as well. I mean,
- 13 I'm really for that idea of, you know, uh, either no
- homes on Jackson, or setting them back by four units,
- um, because that angle to see the historic building,

- and trying to preserve that view, you have to be
- 2 right up on it, um, you know, to see the historic
- 3 building if these go out that far. They have, you
- 4 know, eliminated the ones that blocked it completely,
- 5 which is great, but it's still, you know, a hindrance
- 6 there.
- 7 Uh, our other item is, uh, the park at the
- 8 corner of Jackson and 7th Northeast. So, this park
- 9 looks like it was custom-built for the HOA to come in
- and put a dog park in eventually, um, which, you
- 11 know, would not be ideal in this specific location. I
- mean, it -- it's already set up for a dog park. It's
- 13 going to be all dirt. That grass is not going to
- 14 stay. Um, so, you know, that would be a concern of
- ours. And it's just too close proximity to other
- 16 homes, and the odor and the noise that would be
- 17 caused by a dog park is also very concerning.
- 18 Uh, the maintenance of the park is also a
- oncern. I hear the HOA's going to be there, so we
- 20 would just ask that, you know, that be a requirement,
- um, that, uh, the HOA do maintain it and they, you
- 22 know, replace any capital assets that are there, um,
- 23 and -- you know, on the dog park thing, we'd ask that
- it be a requirement that no -- it would, uh, you
- 25 know, prohibit any dog park being built on the

- 1 property, at any time, uh, by the HOA at a later
- 2 date, or in the other development of the apartments
- 3 that I just found out tonight were be -- being put in
- 4 there -- uh, not apartments, condos.
- 5 Um, and the last thing -- uh, you know, with
- 6 the park, that -- we request that it be stated, if
- 7 there is a park there, that no other use be permitted
- s of that park, not at a later date, you know, they put
- overflow parking in, or they put a huge gazebo on it
- 10 that would block the view of the historic building --
- 11 you know, that it be stated that no additional
- 12 structures be permitted on that site at any time, and
- 13 that it be reserved for park or recreational use, um,
- in the conditions of approval.
- 15 And the last thing would be the parking. I
- would assume this would hopefully -- no residential
- 17 parking permits, um, just because parking's already
- an issue there, and they have garages that they're
- 19 going to be putting in, so.
- 20 With that, I really appreciate the time.
- 21 Sorry I went over, um, and thank you for your
- 22 consideration.
- MS. CASWELL: Thank you, ladies and
- 24 gentlemen. My name is Tracy Caswell. I, too, am a
- resident of Chancellor's Row, um, so I can speak very

- 1 much to living in a tall, skinny house, uh, very,
- very, very close to my neighbors. Forgive me, it was
- 3 a first purchase.
- Um, I'm here for a couple of reasons. I am
- 5 very heartened to hear the testimony of some of the
- 6 Members of the Board, uh, particularly Mr. May, um,
- 7 and of my fellow neighbors. I, too, agree with many
- 8 of the concerns that they share. Uh, I have three
- main concerns, though I think that there are many,
- 10 about this development.
- I particularly object to the north side
- development as described in the PUD documents, um,
- but in general, we're talking about a huge increase
- in density, even with the reduction in units most
- 15 recently proposed now. The original proposal was a
- 16 67-percent increase in density over approved zoning.
- 17 Now, I only figured that out because I have a friend
- who's in development, and he helped me understand,
- 19 um --
- But effectively, this amounts to expensive
- tenement living. These are very, very close together.
- 22 There's very little green space, and -- to the point
- 23 that several folks have made: Land with trees and
- 24 grass is not unused. I appreciate that an empty lot
- 25 -- allegedly empty lot -- next to a very nice-looking

- 1 building is prime for development, and so I
- understand the incentive to develop on 7th Street,
- 3 and I do appreciate that it's -- it's a little bit
- 4 unfair to say that the context of the neighborhood is
- 5 Chancellor's Row. The context of the neighborhood is
- 6 all of the things that surround it, and to say that
- 7 Chancellor's Row is the model by which we should
- § judge all future developments is a huge mistake.
- I live in one of these homes that has a
- 10 1-year warranty from the builder, where things are
- 11 gently falling apart because corners were cut, you
- 12 know. And again, hindsight is 20/20, but it was an
- awfully attractive buy from the outside. And now,
- we're living the reality of noisy, small alleys and
- no place for kids to play, and the constant battle
- between dog owners and folks who don't like dogs, and
- 17 all of the incipient issues. So, I encourage everyone
- 18 to think about the use of these homes once they come
- 19 to be.
- We, the members of the community, are, you
- 21 know, being asked to live with 2 years of
- 22 construction -- 2 years of traffic being obstructed
- 23 by construction vehicles, 2 years of noise and debris
- 24 and contamination all around us. We're being asked to
- 25 live with that, to get what?

- So, I think the cost has to be considered,
- 2 and particularly looking at the way that these homes
- are designed, does it really add anything for the
- 4 folks who live in more -- you know, call them
- 5 "historic homes" -- homes that weren't built in 2010?
- 6 For the folks that have been here, what does it do
- 7 for them? What does it do for them, to obstruct the
- 8 view of this beautiful building, to take away green
- 9 space that, even if it's not public land, is still
- there; it's still part of our environment and part of
- 11 our community?
- 12 Um, my second point is the ANC vote. This is
- 13 no slay to the ANC. The members of the ANC do great
- work, and they have done a lot for this, and for this
- 15 development in particular, in winning some
- 16 concessions that are important. But the reason that
- 17 no opposition was heard is because, perhaps to our
- 18 discredit, most of the neighbors were not aware of
- 19 the timing of the ANC vote. In fact, when I called
- 20 Commissioner Steiner, it turned out that the vote had
- 21 already happened.
- 22 The notices that were sent by the developer
- were received, in the most part, after the ANC had
- 24 already voted. I, myself, never received such a
- notice, so shame on me for not being more informed

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- about my neighborhood.
- But I will tell you that I have spoke to
- dozens of my neighbors about this issue,
- 4 specifically, and most of them are completely unaware
- of the role that the ANC plays in the zoning approval
- 6 process, and of the timing of the ANC vote, and how
- 7 critical their testimony could have been. So, there
- 8 are lots of voices that we are not hearing tonight.
- $_{
 m 0}$ Um, and lastly, the issue of parking -- um,
- 10 again, there are many more issues, but I think this
- is one of the most critical ones. As you pointed out,
- 12 there is a presumption that once you have a garage,
- that you will be parking in that garage, and there
- 14 will be no overflow vehicles. Chancellor's Row is a
- 15 perfect example of how that's not true, um, and the
- 16 battle for parking has been underway for years, and
- it's still not resolved. And the folks in the
- 18 neighborhood who already have to deal with street
- 19 parking are encumbered by it. It's really not fair to
- them that it wasn't better planned. So, the number of
- 21 parking spaces proposed in this development, with --
- 22 already crowded with homes, is really inadequate for
- 23 the purpose.
- So, I hope that you will consider all of
- these things, and, uh, all of the comments that

- 1 everyone made. And thank you very much for your time.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Uh, thank you all
- 3 for your testimony. Uh, let -- let me just say, I
- 4 think the way things are going, at least from my
- standpoint, you'll have a chance to get your
- 6 neighbors out, because there will be another ANC
- 7 vote. Uh, so you have to do your part to help get
- 8 your neighbors out.
- And -- and let me go to Mr. Clark. Um, I know
- 10 you're a longtime, uh, resident and -- and done --
- uh, been doing a lot of civic work for years in -- in
- 12 Ward 5 and in the city, and well respected. My
- 13 concern is, when I read your testimony -- and -- and
- 14 I understand. I thought about the same thing when I
- 15 started looking at this, because in Woodridge, there
- 16 are some, uh -- some things that are in Brookland,
- 17 named Woodridge. So, I understand what you're saying.
- 18 So I'm not sure how we got to the name. Hopefully,
- when they go back and look at everything else, they
- 20 may figure it out and get it straight, because
- 21 sometimes that can cause -- I will tell you that the
- development that's in Brookland, that's named after
- 23 Woodridge, nobody calls it that. And that's been some
- 24 years ago, but --
- But I agree with you. We need to stay on

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- 1 course -- and not that we're setting up boundaries,
- 2 but these neighborhoods have been established for
- years, and they should keep their name, and we need
- 4 to insist upon that. So, I'm hoping that the
- 5 developer -- uh, I'm not trying to rename his
- 6 project, uh, but I hope they will be considerate of -
- 7 of that in -- in working with the ANC and also the
- 8 Civic Association, which has been around -- which is
- 9 under the charter of the Federation of the Civic
- 10 Associations.
- But le -- let me find out a little bit about
- 12 this. Um -- we would men -- it was mentioned that you
- were one of the authors of the -- or -- or mentioned
- 14 that you had requested -- or, um, offered to the
- 15 applicant about the Edgewood -- Edgewood Recreation
- 16 Center, uh, about the thirty -- uh, you -- you said
- 17 you didn't have a dollar amount, but they -- they
- 18 took your offer, I -- I quess. Am I correct --
- MR. CLARK: Well, we --
- 20 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: -- with that statement?
- MR. CLARK: Well, we met with Mr. Rosenberg
- 22 (sic) -- Mr. -- myself and Mr. Rashidi Christian. We
- 23 met at the proposed site, and to -- from his first
- 24 coming to the Edgewood Civic Association meeting. We
- talked about, uh, the sign that we were working on

- 1 doing, putting at the Triangle Park that would say
- 2 "Welcome to Edgewood, the Edgewood Civic
- 3 Association."
- And that was the purpose of that meeting. We
- 5 had plans, we had drawings, we had costs -- because
- 6 we've already done the groundwork. And we gave it to
- 7 Mr. Rosenberger and his assistant at that time, and
- 8 we got the impression that that would be part of the
- 9 amenities package.
- During that -- because he asked me, "Is there
- any other amenities that you can think of?" I said,
- "Well, maybe the rec center, because we're building a
- new rec center. Uh, we've got 'X' amount of dollars
- 14 for it. But maybe that." But there was no further
- 15 discussion about dollar amount, uh, that I put in
- there, because I wouldn't have put 35,000; I would
- 17 have put 50,000. And I think that the -- the money
- 18 should go to, uh, uh, the -- the -- the
- 19 equipment that's needed at the rec center because,
- 20 right now, they don't have equipment.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
- MR. CLARK: Actually, I got my DPR, but right
- now, they don't have basic equipment like
- 24 basketballs, and even a pump to blow up the ball. So,
- uh, that is much needed. So we don't want to build a

- 1 15-million-dollar facility, and we can't, uh, outfit
- 2 it.
- Also, there is a -- there is no need to set
- 4 up a foundation to handle that money, because DC Par
- 5 -- DCP -- uh, DPR already has a mechanism that we
- 6 work with that you donate the money, and it's
- 7 designated for that project and that project only,
- 8 that goes to it. So that 35,000 dollars can be
- 9 designated as a gift from the developer to DC -- DPR,
- 10 and there's a -- the paperwork process of it -- that
- 11 that money doesn't go into a pot that's in DPR and
- 12 they can use it somewhere else. So they already have
- 13 the mechanism; it's just a matter of, you know, the
- 14 developer doing that.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Uh, I'm -- I'm familiar
- with the mechanism. Uh, I just noted I had a
- 17 scoreboard in Woodridge that I had to fight to get
- 18 the -- we had to fight to make sure it happened. But
- 19 I know this Commission, over the years, recognized
- 20 that, and what we'd like to do is, we'd like to see
- 21 the, um, developer basically administer and purchase
- 22 and put it down there, as opposed to going those
- other routes. I do know about DPR. I'm not saying
- 24 that's not the way to do it.
- MR. CLARK: Mm-hmm.

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- 1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I'm not going to belabor
- 2 the point. If -- if the community's fine with it, I'm
- 3 ecstatic about it. If that's the way you think it's
- 4 going to happen -- I just hope y'all don't have to go
- 5 through what we went through, uh, to get it. It was
- 6 there, but it took a while to -- to pull the teeth
- out and get it. So, hopefully, you all can have --
- But I -- I think, though, there will be --
- from my standpoint, there will be time to continue to
- 10 have -- I'm not trying to undo what was done. I'm not
- 11 try -- but I think there will be time for you all to
- 12 continue to have discussions with the ANC, the Single
- 13 Member District, and the Civic Association, which
- 14 this is in the area of this. And I think there --
- there's going to be some more time, at least from my
- 16 standpoint, uh, and especially with some of the
- 17 concerns you heard here about the project as a whole.
- 18 Okay? Let me open up -- Vice-Chair Cohen?
- MS. COHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Um --
- 20 excuse me. Mr. Clark, I just want to read something
- 21 from, um, Christine Roddy's, um, letter dated August
- 22 21, to see if this addresses your concern, because
- maybe I didn't really grasp what you were saying.
- Um, "The applicant is proposing the
- 25 following: Edgewood signage at the direction of its

- 1 Single Member District. The applicant has reached out
- 2 to the Edgewood Civic Association to coordinate the
- 3 erection of welcome signs at the entrance of
- 4 Edgewood."
- Is that something that you were asking for in
- 6 your remarks?
- 7 MR. CLARK: That's something that we had
- 8 asked for as a -- That's something that we had asked
- 9 for, uh, as an association, because we were working
- on to do it ourself, and he asked us about community
- amenity, and we said, "Well, that would be great."
- 12 So, when we presented our plans and everything that
- we had collected to him, we assumed that that would
- 14 be part of the amenities package until he came to our
- 15 -- the -- our September meeting and read off the
- 16 community amenities, and that was not part of the
- 17 amenities package, so.
- MS. COHEN: All right. I'm going to have Ms.
- 19 Roddy respond when -- in her -- her final letter.
- 20 It's because I'm reading from her own letter. Maybe,
- 21 you know, it's out of date, but that's kind of what I
- 22 gathered was one of the proffers, so I'll get that
- 23 clarified.
- Um, one other thing -- uh -- it's Ms.
- 25 Schultz? Is that -- no, Tracy Caswell.

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- MS. CASWELL: Ms. Caswell, yes.
- MS. COHEN: Um, I hear -- hear what you're
- 3 saying, but it gave me a little bit of a tweak that
- 4 -- I know it's your first home in, um, Chancellor's
- 5 Row, and I know you're having -- experiencing some
- 6 issues, but I have to tell you that, um -- and I know
- 7 -- I don't think I was here for the vote on
- 8 Chancellor's Row, but number one, this city needs
- 9 density to house the people who have been moving in,
- such as yourself, possibly. I don't know. I don't
- 11 know if you made a move internal, or you came from
- somewhere else. And in addition, I think the
- 13 residents who live there had the same concerns with
- 14 Chancellor's Row.
- And I just wanted to tell you that, um, we,
- up here, need to balance all of these things. We have
- 17 such a need for housing that, in -- in -- in my
- 18 opinion -- and -- and I don't know much -- how much
- 19 longer I'll be sitting up here -- but density is an
- 20 urgent need in this city. It needs to be properly
- 21 placed, sited, as well as designed.
- So, I'm not in any way casting, you know, any
- 23 criticism against that, but I just wanted people to
- understand that everybody is concerned about the new
- 25 people coming in, and it's unfair for a lot of people

- that don't have the opportunity, that they're, you
- 2 know, living amongst relatives -- that can't afford
- 3 to have a home. And I just wanted to share that with
- 4 you, because I really did get a twinge when you were
- 5 testifying, so.
- MS. CASWELL: Uh, I completely agree, if I
- 7 may respond, just to say that I think the balance of
- 8 profit against reasonable living space is, perhaps,
- 9 out of balance here. Um, and certainly, when you were
- 10 talking about affordable housing or multi-family
- 11 homes, there are efficient ways to house many people,
- and we've seen it in many other communities. But if I
- were talking a walk through my neighborhood, I
- wouldn't look at Redemptorists and say, "Gee, I think
- 15 that needs 39 townhomes around it. " And it's
- 16 particularly looking at the way that the townhomes
- interact with the existing homes and interact with
- 18 the other amenities and pieces of our community. I
- mean, soon it'll be remarkable to say, "A tree grows
- 20 in Brookland." It's --
- MS. COHEN: I -- I -- I think we're on the
- 22 same page --
- MS. CASWELL: Right.
- MS. COHEN: -- but I just wanted to give you
- 25 a -- a reaction.

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- MS. CASWELL: I wholeheartedly agree.
- MS. COHEN: And wanted people in the audience
- 3 to understand where I come from. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Uh, any other
- 5 questions? Mr. Turnbull?
- MR. TURNBULL: Yeah, I've just got a comment.
- 7 I want to thank all of you for coming here tonight. I
- 8 think a lot of your comments echo some of the
- 9 comments that we made, and we have questions for, I'm
- 10 sure, the applicant. Well, we know the applicant's
- 11 going -- going to be going back and restudying a lot
- of the issues that are currently laid out on this
- 13 project.
- Um, one of the things, which we didn't talk
- about, but, uh, we often do on projects is, the
- 16 applicant -- and we -- we can't enforce it, but we
- 17 can put it in our zoning in the order, when it comes
- out, is that the applicant, uh, gets into a
- 19 construction management, uh, plan, and either the ANC
- 20 -- but it -- it deals with traffic and construction
- 21 traffic, and you people all have a contact. There's a
- way of organizing that the neighborhood's all
- involved, and it keeps track of what's going on. We
- 24 can't enforce it, but we often do recommend that the
- 25 applicant do it, especially when there's a lot of

- 1 concerns, and the proximity is so close to other
- 2 residential areas.
- So, I'm glad you brought that up. We didn't
- 4 get into it, but I want to thank you, Ms. Caswell,
- 5 for bringing that up. But, again, I want to thank all
- of you for your comments. I think you echoed a lot of
- 7 the concerns that we had.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, any other questions
- 9 or comments up here? Uh, Commissioner Miller?
- MR. MILLER: I just -- I just wanted to thank
- each of the, uh, the residents for coming down here
- 12 tonight and testifying. We appreciate it.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, let's see if we have
- 14 any cross. Does the applicant have any -- any cross?
- MS. RODDY: No.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Chairperson, do you
- 17 have any cross?
- MS. QUINN: I do have a couple of questions.
- 19 Um, first, I'd like to know: What -- what height
- 20 would you all be comfortable with?
- MR. SCHULTZ: Well, I mean, looking at the
- 22 Bozzuto development, they stuck to three stories.
- 23 When it gets closer to, like I said, not historic
- townho -- or hou -- homes, but when you have more of
- 25 a neighborhood-scale house, um, they worked it better

- in. They made the roofline, uh -- you know, just made
- 2 it seem like it's a three-story house, even though
- 3 the roofline is straight up, and there's, you know, a
- 4 dormer in it, but it's -- they still look better, um,
- 5 than these -- this proposal here. Um -- yeah.
- MS. QUINN: Okay. And I also wanted to know
- 7 whether it's a concern of yours, in -- in terms of
- 8 how the park is actually used, this park that's been
- 9 contemplated -- whether it's public or private? Uh,
- 10 for me, that would be an issue, but I don't want to
- 11 fight for that if that is not an actual community
- 12 issue.
- MS. CASWELL: I think it very much is. Um, we
- 14 have so little land that we can use. We have so
- 15 little green space in general, as a city, as a
- 16 community. Um, but I, for one, am all for maintaining
- 17 the space that we have as community space, in -- in
- 18 all of the neighborhoods that we have, as much as
- 19 possible.
- MR. DESIDERIO: I would definitely agree with
- 21 that, because I think whatever little is there will
- 22 just get more overcrowded with this coming in.
- MS. QUINN: Okay. Um, and just as a point of
- 24 information going forward: ANC 5E meetings are the
- 25 third Tuesday of every month at Trinity University.

- 1 So that's where you can find us, 7:00 p.m.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: What time is that, again?
- MS. QUINN: Seven p.m., sharp.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So don't come at
- 5 7:05; come at 7:00 p.m.
- 6 (Laughter)
- MS. QUINN: We'll be there at 7:05.
- 8 (Laughter)
- 9 MS. STEINER: Um, I have a question to -- Oh.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Just quickly, uh -- and
- 11 that's what I wanted the Chairperson, because she's,
- 12 uh -- she has to ask the cross-examination questions.
- MS. STEINER: It's okay. No problem.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So if you could -- if you
- 15 could give her your question and let her ask it --
- MS. STEINER: Uh, could you please address
- 17 Mr. Clark?
- 18 (Laughter)
- 19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: You know what? You know
- 20 what? You know what? You know what? Hold on. Hold on.
- 1'm -- go -- go ahead. Go ahead. Go ahead.
- MS. STEINER: Thank you. Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: But it's a question?
- MS. STEINER: I am doing a question.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Do you mind, Madame Chair,

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- 1 if she asks a question? Okay. It's a
- 2 cross-examination question, what was testify. I heard
- 3 some good statements early on, but -- that's why I
- 4 wanted to hear it again, so you may proceed.
- MS. STEINER: Thank you, Commissioner Hood.
- 6 Um, Madame Chair for ANC 5E, could you please address
- 7 Mr. Clark in regarding his request for, um, the
- 8 signage, and ask him whether or not, when he received
- 9 the money from treeology (sic) from the developer,
- who gave him over 20,000 dollars --
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Let me -- let me -- no,
- 12 hold on, let me stop that. I want you to ask. I --
- 13 I'm letting you do it. Uh, you don't need to go
- 14 through her now. You're going to ask the question.
- MS. STEINER: Oh, thank you. Mr. Clark, when
- 16 you received your developer's money, when you
- 17 received the cash allotment from treeology (sic), uh,
- 18 you were, at that particular time, to do signage,
- but, um, obviously through, um, the accounting and
- 20 everything else, it appears as though that that did
- 21 not happen. Can you explain why you did not provide
- 22 the signage at that time?
- 23 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Is -- is that -- let me
- 24 ask this: Is that pa -- is that part of this case?
- MS. STEINER: Yes, because he's asking about

- 1 signage, and then he wants this, um, group to p -- pr
- 2 -- provide signage, so I wanted to get the
- 3 correlation of --
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Eh, eh, yeah, I understand
- 5 what you're -- where you're trying to get to. You --
- 6 you can do that at ANC meeting. I don't think that's
- 7 appropriate for this particular setting.
- MS. STEINER: Okay, I'll counsel my
- g questions, then. Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Thank you for
- 11 being so cooperative. Okay. Are there any other
- 12 questions up here? Okay, thank you all very much. We
- 13 appreciate your testimony.
- I -- I actually think, um, depending -- and -
- 15 and this -- this is, uh -- this -- the five of us
- 16 talking about this. I actually think that with some
- of the changes that may come forward, we may have to
- 18 have a -- a limited-scope hearing, or just have a
- 19 hearing. And -- and I -- I was thinking about that
- 20 earlier, before I had the public come up and testify,
- like we did once before, where we stopped it right
- 22 after the presentation from the applicant, instead of
- 23 being redundant and have another hearing. But we went
- 24 forward, because I think it was good to flesh out.
- Um, this time, it worked, I think, because we fleshed

- out some other issues that we heard from the
- 2 community.
- But I know we have some concerns, and I can
- 4 tell you, I don't think this is right for this
- 5 commission -- at least, I don't think you have the
- 6 votes. Matter of fact, I know you don't have the
- 7 votes. Uh, so -- so I think that there's some going
- 8 back to do. You've heard some of the concerns, not
- 9 just from us but from the community, and there are
- 10 some other things that you can tighten up, with the
- amenities, and some other things we can just kind of
- 12 tighten up and shore up. And I think, through
- 13 everything I've heard, I'm hoping we can come back
- with a much better plan that will be suitable, like
- we see in other areas, for this -- this community.
- But let -- let's open it up, colleagues. Uh,
- 17 Mr. Turnbull?
- MR. TURNBULL: No, I -- I -- I would agree
- with you a hundred percent. I think, um, from all the
- 20 comments that we've had and -- or -- and that -- what
- we've had, as the -- the Commission as a whole, I
- 22 think the applicant has to go back and take a harder
- 23 look at some of the other -- some of the elements of
- 24 this plan, uh, in light of our concerns that -- that
- we've had.

- Um, it'll be a tough row to hoe for some of
- 2 Commissioner's (sic) May's issues, but maybe not. I
- mean, it depends upon where they're going to go with
- 4 some of the issues, and how they're going to handle
- 5 it. Um, but, yeah, I think we're going to have to
- 6 have either a limited-scope hearing or continue the
- 7 hearing in some way so that the applicant has some
- 8 time to go back. Uh, they may need some more meetings
- 9 with the, uh -- with the community, with either the
- 10 ANC and maybe some of the other groups -- I'm not
- 11 sure -- to res -- to take a look at some of the
- 12 things that -- that we've asked about.
- But, um, I don't know if -- how long that --
- that would take. That may not take too long. I don't
- 15 know. I mean, we've asked for quite a number of
- 16 things, so, um -- but I think -- I think the hearing
- 17 has to continue. I don't -- I don't think we can take
- 18 any kind of action tonight on -- on this.
- MR. MAY: I -- I agree, and -- and --
- 20 and I'll -- and I don't think that further submitted
- 21 information be sufficient for voting, certainly not
- 22 sufficient to get my vote and support. Um, the, uh --
- 23 and I think that if -- you know, if it -- if we get
- 24 something with changes on the magnitude that I think
- 25 are necessary, uh, at least from my perspective, it

- 1 would be helpful to have another hearing.
- Um, and, uh -- now, I -- I also -- I do have
- a, sort of, procedural question. Um, you know, um, I
- 4 think, um, Commissioner Miller put, uh, you know --
- 5 es -- essentially brought out in -- in his
- 6 questioning that -- that the, um -- this development,
- 7 um, by preceding any designation of the, uh -- the
- 8 college building as a -- as an historic structure,
- 9 um, essentially has -- bypasses HPRB review.
- 10 Um, if -- and I understand that the
- 11 Redemptorists were -- were not -- are not ready to
- move in this direction, but after tonight, I'm not
- 13 sure what they'll -- they'll want to do. I mean, if
- 14 they were to opt to sort of pull back at the moment
- and incorporate the historic building, get it
- 16 designated in -- and sort of figure out exactly what
- 17 they're going to do with the building --
- In the long run, I mean, could we
- 19 essentially, um, put this project in abeyance for
- 20 however long that would take? I met -- uh, I know
- it's not going to be a matter of weeks or months.
- 12 It's probably going to be, you know, a year or more,
- but could the whole thing be put in abeyance and then
- 24 simply come back with a modified application to
- incorporate that building into it? Procedurally, does

- 1 that work? Um, I would think it does, but I'm not the
- 2 expert on the procedure. Maybe Ms. Schellin knows,
- 3 um, or has an opinion on that. Again, I'm not
- 4 suggesting that that has to be what happens, but I
- 5 just -- I -- I think it's helpful to have that
- 6 discussion.
- 7 MS. SCHELLIN: I -- is that building on a
- 8 different lot? It would be all one ro-- eh, lot, but
- 9 it's not right now. It is part of one of the lots?
- 10 It's on parcels? Um, but you're not including it
- 11 right now as part of the PUD, that parcel? I -- I
- 12 think that -- because this has a related map
- amendment -- that would have been my only concern,
- and because it is, I think that, um, you know, they
- 15 would just --
- 16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I'd really rather for us
- 17 not to answer that question.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yeah.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Uh, I -- I -- I don't
- 20 think we should be answering that question. Okay. I
- 21 think, really --
- MR. MAY: I -- I exempt that -- uh, yeah, you
- 23 know, it's -- it's --
- 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah. But I really don't
- 25 want --

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- MR. MAY: -- it's not for us to answer.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I don't want you to answer
- 3 that question.
- 4 MS. SCHELLIN: Yeah.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I really think that's a
- 6 question, if we do, at least our attorneys will
- 7 answer.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yeah.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I think -- because I don't
- want to put nothing out there that's wrong. Ms.
- 11 Schellin, she's a great person, but she's not an
- attorney, at least she wasn't at 6:30 today.
- MS. SCHELLIN: No. No.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So, we want to make sure
- we're safe in this proceeding, and a lot of stuff,
- 16 Commissioner May, while I understand that you put it
- out there, I think that's enough. I think that the --
- 18 the, uh, applicant has heard you, uh, and we -- if we
- need to do something on it, I think, you know, you
- 20 all have heard what Commissioner May and Miller have
- 21 mentioned about that piece, the HPRB, and we'll --
- we'll just leave it at that. Okay? I think that's the
- 23 safest bet, far as I'm concerned. Okay? All right.
- And I think, you know, what they come back
- with, colleagues, is -- if they come back -- is what

- 1 they come back with. Okay? And they've heard the
- 2 concerns.
- And let me just say this: This ain't the
- 4 first time the Commission -- you know, this
- 5 commission has been ridiculed, as late as last week,
- 6 when I was at Costco, about, we approve everything.
- 7 We don't approve everything. We do ja -- just what
- 8 we're doing here now, and we do that with a lot of
- 9 cases. But nobody knows that. But anyway.
- Okay, we -- we have a, uh, solution. Uh,
- we're not going to put a time frame on it. Uh, we're
- 12 going to let you contact Ms. Schellin. Ms. Schellin
- 13 will -- the office will -- we will work with her from
- there. Uh, we don't want to say 2 weeks, 2 months, 3
- 15 years, 6 months -- we don't want to say anything. We
- 16 will give you the opportunity to work with Ms.
- 17 Schellin, and then we'll go from there. Okay? Is that
- 18 -- is that fair? Okay.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Right. We'll just have to
- 20 advertise; you'll have to post the property, just
- like you do now, so we'll have to go through the
- 22 normal notice process. Um, that's the -- the
- 23 difference if we give a date definite, but I'm not
- 24 sure that we can do that, um, to put a date tonight,
- um, and then you not be able to keep the deadline

- 1 because you need to go back to the community. We know
- 2 for a fact the ANC doesn't meet until November 17,
- and then you have the holidays in there, and we're
- 4 very limited on having anything available this year,
- 5 SO.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Uh, Chairperson
- 7 Quinn, you have something?
- MS. QUINN: Yes, I -- I just wanted to be
- 9 clear as to whether we would be expected to file a
- 10 brand new ANC report. So, is it essentially we're
- 11 starting over, in a sorts?
- 12 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I think -- I don't want to
- 13 say we're starting --
- MS. QUINN: Right.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: -- from scratch --
- MS. QUINN: Mm-hmm.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: -- but I think you all
- 18 will want to weigh in, uh, and -- and include some
- others, especially those who now know what time the
- 20 meeting starts, and where it's at. Uh, so I -- I
- 21 think you probably will have to re -- because it's
- 22 probably going to be a different plan.
- MS. QUINN: Very well.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I'm not sure what they --
- 25 they may come back with the sa -- I hope they don't

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come back with the same plan. But the point is, you're going to have something different to look at. 2 MS. QUINN: Got it. 3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Any other questions? Δ Ms. Roddy, are we okay? No date, we'll go from there. 5 MS. RODDY: We understand. 6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, so all the players 7 who are -- all the people who spoke up tonight, uh, 8 stay engaged. Uh, Ms. Roddy, you'll be working with Ms. Schellin. We'll go from there. 10 Colleagues, do we have anything else? Ms. 11 Schellin, do we have anything else? Okay. So with 12 that, I want to thank everyone for their 13 participation tonight, and this hearing is adjourned. 14 (Whereupon, the above matter concluded at 15 9:00 p.m.) 16 17 18 19

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