1	GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
2	Zoning Commission
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9	REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
10	1425TH Meeting Session [4th OF 2016]
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14	6:39 p.m. to 8:51 p.m.
15	Monday, February 8, 2016
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17	Jerrily R. Kress Memorial Hearing Room
18	441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 220 South
19	Washington, D.C. 20001
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Board Members: 2 ANTHONY HOOD, Chairperson MARCIE COHEN, VICE CHAIR 3 PETER MAY, Commissioner ROBERT MILLER, Commissioner MICHAEL TURNBULL, Commissioner 6 7 Office of Zoning: 8 SHARON SCHELLIN, Secretary 9 10 Office of the Attorney General: 11 JACOB RITTING 12 13 14 Office of Planning: JOEL LAWSON 15 JENNIFER STEINGASSER 16 BRANDICE ELLIOT 17 MAXINE BROWN-ROBERTS 18 MATT JESICK 19 STEPHEN MORDFIN 20 MEGAN RAPPOLT 21 ELISA VITALE 22 23 24

1 PROCEEDINGS

- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Good evening. This
- 3 meeting will please come to order. This is the
- 4 public meeting of the Zoning Commission for the
- 5 District of Columbia. My name is Anthony Hood, and
- 6 joining me are Vice Chair Cohen, Commissioner Miller,
- 7 Commissioner May, Commissioner Turnbull, Office of
- 8 Zoning staff, Ms. Sharon Schellin, Office of Attorney
- 9 General, Mr. Ritting, Office of Planning, Ms.
- 10 Steingasser and Mr. Lawson, Ms. Elliot, and Ms.
- 11 Brown-Roberts, and I think we're going to be joined
- 12 periodically by other members of the Office of
- 13 Planning who will introduce themselves at the
- 14 appropriate time.
- 15 Copies of today's meeting agenda, excuse me,
- 16 are available to you and are located in the bin near
- 17 the door. We do not take any public testimony in our
- 18 meetings unless the Commission requests someone to
- 19 come forward. Please be advised that this proceeding
- 20 is being recorded by a court reporter and is also
- 21 webcast live. Accordingly, we must ask you to
- refrain from any disruptive noises or actions in the
- 23 hearing room, including display of any signs or
- objects.
- Please turn off all beepers and cell phones.

- 1 Does the staff have any preliminary matters?
- MS. SCHELLIN: No, sir.
- 3 CHAIRMAN HOOD: If not, I do have one
- 4 preliminary matter. I am going to rearrange the
- 5 agenda. I'm going to have to leave so what I would
- 6 like to do, Vice Chair, it's okay with my colleagues,
- 7 I would do everything last except for -- I mean,
- 8 everything except for hearing action. And at the
- 9 hearing action I will turn that over. I have left my
- 10 proxies with Ms. Schellin for hearing action.
- Okay. First what I'd like to do is other
- 12 business, election of officers. Commissioners, what
- is your pleasure? Commissioner Miller.
- MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I would move that
- 15 we elect -- reelect Anthony Hood as chairman and
- 16 Marcie Cohen as Vice Chairman, and ask for a second.
- MR. TURNBULL: Second.
- 18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. It's been moved and
- 19 properly seconded. Any further discussion.
- [Vote taken.]
- 21 CHAIRMAN HOOD: So ordered. Ms. Schellin,
- 22 would you record the vote?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. Staff records the
- 24 vote five to zero to zero to reelect Chairman -- or
- 25 Anthony Hood as Chairman and Marcie Cohen as Vice

- 1 Chairman, Chairperson, Commissioner Miller moving,
- 2 Commissioner Turnbull seconding, Commissioners Hood,
- 3 May, and Miller -- I'm sorry, Hood, May, and Cohen in
- 4 support.
- 5 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. I think -- I'm sure I
- 6 can speak on behalf of Ms. Cohen this time. We would
- 7 like to thank our colleagues again for entrusting us
- 8 in those leadership roles. So we appreciate that.
- 9 Can I speak on your behalf?
- MS. COHEN: You always do.
- 11 CHAIRMAN HOOD: No, I don't.
- MS. COHEN: Yes.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. We appreciate that.
- 14 Thank you.
- Okay. Let's go to correspondence. Zoning
- 16 Commission Case No. 15-09. This is ANC 1C and
- 17 residents of Lanier Heights, request for waiver of
- 18 posting requirements. Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. We have a request
- 20 from ANC 1C asking for a waiver of the posting
- 21 requirements on this case. They have stated -- or
- this is a rulemaking case and it involves a large
- number of lots and they're asking for a waiver of the
- 24 posting requirements, so we'd ask the Commission to
- 25 consider this request.

- 1 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay, Commissioners, we have
- the request in front of us as outlined. Let me open
- 3 it up for any comments. Commissioner Miller.
- 4 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I think that this
- 5 proposed rezoning is -- effects portions of only
- 6 eight squares, and I think it's about six plus, six
- 7 and a half blocks. So I think, although I can see
- 8 that every property doesn't necessarily have to have
- 9 a sign posted on it, every individual property, I
- 10 think at the end of each block there could be a
- 11 posting that would be only, you know, that would be
- 13 signs and it would say on the hearing notice,
- 13 presumably, which squares are involved or where you
- 14 can go to see exactly which squares are involved, or
- 15 blocks. So I think at a minimum that we should have
- 16 at least that kind of public notice for a rezoning.
- 17 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Any other comments on
- 18 that? Commissioner May?
- MR. MAY: Mr. Chair, I agree. You know, I
- 20 understand the difficulty of posting individual
- 21 properties for a map amendment like this, but at the
- same time I think there is a responsibility to make
- 23 sure that everybody whose property may be affected is
- 24 well informed and posting the properties in the
- 25 manner that Commissioner Miller suggests is one way

- to do it. An alternative would be for every property
- 2 owner that is potentially affected, be notified by
- 3 mail. Or you know, leaflets in the door, assuming
- 4 that it's going to the property owner when that
- 5 happens. So I'm, you know, one way or another I
- 6 think that we need to make sure that every property
- 7 owner is informed.
- 8 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Vice Chair, you want
- 9 to have --
- MS. COHEN: Mr. Chairman, I concur with my
- 11 colleagues. I think it's important and it will
- 12 protect the ANC. This is a controversial request and
- 13 I think that by sending something out or posting each
- 14 block it will help them as well, so that when people
- 15 come forward to testify if they don't support the
- 16 ANC's position the ANC has proof that they have made
- 17 every single effort to inform every single household.
- 18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Mr. Turnbull.
- MR. TURNBULL: Oh, thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 20 Just to clarify then, we had two different ideas.
- 21 I'm assuming we're coming both? We're posting at the
- 22 blocks and mailing?
- CHAIRMAN HOOD: I would just suggest that
- they do one or the other, and I guess, do they need
- to verify to the office that they've done this? I

- 1 would suggest that. And again, you know, as my
- 2 colleagues know, and I'll put it bluntly, we get
- accused of so much stuff that we don't do and we try
- 4 to get public notice. So I would encourage them
- 5 also, of what my colleagues said to do is to make
- 6 sure that they do what they can to get the word out
- 7 there. I know what they have mentioned in their
- 8 letter. But they really need to try to make sure
- 9 because the night of the hearing we'll have a number
- of people who come down and tell us they don't know
- 11 anything about it. So --
- MR. TURNBULL: Yeah. And I agree. I just
- wanted to clarify whether we are doing one or the
- 14 other or both.
- 15 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I think we can leave it up to
- 16 them. And I mean, unless you all want to -- I don't
- 17 think we need to necessarily direct them. I think we
- 18 can leave it up to them and they just verify with the
- office that they've done it one or the other. And
- 20 then I'm sure the night of the hearing we'll find out
- whether they really did a good job at it or not.
- okay?
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay.
- CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. So do we need to do
- 25 anything, a motion or anything on this or --

- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, since they've made a
- 2 request to waive to posting either you do it by
- 3 consensus or, you know, to waive that, the posting
- 4 requirement, and then advise that they need to do one
- of the other. If you'd just do that.
- 6 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Are they here?
- 7 MS. SCHELLIN: I don't know if Mr. Suski is
- 8 in there. He may be watching from home.
- 9 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Well, somebody like to
- 10 put a motion on the table? I don't think we need to
- 11 recommend it a specific way but --
- MS. SCHELLIN: Well, that's what I mean, one
- or the other; that they do one or the other.
- 14 CHAIRMAN HOOD: That they do one or the
- other. Why don't we give them the option to do one
- or the other, because one of them is -- call
- 17 financial, and the other one may be less financial
- 18 than the other. So why don't we -- I move that we
- 19 give them the option of doing one of the other and
- verify -- do an affidavit -- not even an affidavit,
- 21 but verify with this office that they've done one or
- 22 the other as prescribed by my colleagues in this
- 23 discussion and ask for a second.
- MS. COHEN: Second.
- 25 CHAIRMAN HOOD: It's been moved and properly

- 1 seconded, any further discussion?
- 2 [Vote taken.]
- 3 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Not hearing any opposition,
- 4 Ms. Schellin, would you record the vote?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. Staff records the
- 6 vote five to zero to zero allowing the petitioners to
- 7 either post or send notice to the owners of the
- 8 properties involved in the map amendment request
- 9 before the Commission in Zoning Commission Case No.
- 10 15-09, Commissioner Hood moving, Commissioner Cohen
- 11 seconding, Commissioners May, Miller, and Turnbull in
- support.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: And, Ms. Schellin, if the
- 14 Office can contact and let them know what our resolve
- 15 was on that? Thank you.
- Okay. Next, under corresponding Zoning
- 17 Commission Case No. 14-11, letter from Fay Armstrong,
- 18 et al., seeking clarification on the conversion of
- 19 residential buildings. Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. As you stated, this
- 21 is a letter from Ms. Armstrong and several others
- 22 requesting clarification on the requirement that
- 23 conversion of buildings to apartment buildings must
- 24 not extend more than 10 feet past the furthest rear
- wall of any principle residential building on an

- 1 adjacent property. Would ask the Commission to
- 2 consider this letter before you.
- 3 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Colleagues, we have
- 4 this letter. We don't need to open the record, do
- 5 we?
- 6 MS. SCHELLIN: No, sir.
- 7 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Because the record is closed.
- 9 It came in at -- it's just a correspondence item.
- 10 CHAIRMAN HOOD: But this is a correspondence
- item for clarification, colleagues, and we have
- 12 reviewed this. I think it's called pop, pop, pop,
- 13 pop back. Got so many pops around here. But anyway,
- 14 this is a pop back issue. What is your pleasure or
- 15 how would you all like to proceed with this
- 16 clarification issue?
- MR. TURNBULL: Well, Mr. Chair, in one way I
- 18 feel comfortable with answering, going ahead with it.
- 19 But I think what I would like from a procedural
- 20 standpoint is to have the Office of Planning and OAG
- 21 go back and maybe give us a report about what
- 22 happened in the last -- where we approved this, there
- is some confusion I think about what's really
- 24 included in a special exception matter of right. The
- whole procedural part that we agreed upon, there's

- 1 some confusion in the language that you can read that
- 2 certain items may have been added or may not have
- 3 been added.
- 4 And I think just for clarification for our
- 5 own procedural basis as we go forward, I mean, I
- 6 think I'm happy going forward, but I think before we
- 7 really do anything I think we should just take a step
- 8 back, have OAG and OP maybe come back and give us a
- 9 synopsis of that last hearing and what was the intent
- 10 and go back and look at some of the language as to
- 11 what we actually said. Just to confirm.
- 12 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
- 13 Turnbull. I actually would agree because, you know,
- 14 as we went through that whole ordeal it was quite a
- 15 bit and if we left -- it could be an either/or. We
- might have left something out or -- but I want to
- 17 make sure it's what we say so I would concur. Any
- 18 objections Commissioners? Does anybody need to know
- where we are on this?
- Okay. So I'm sure the Office of Planning --
- 21 Vice Chair?
- MS. COHEN: Yeah, I think this is a very
- 23 conservative step that we're taking, because on the
- 24 other hand I think special exceptions do cover that
- 25 10-foot area to evaluate. But I have no problem

- 1 being extra cautious, so I will go along with it.
- 2 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I think it does cover it, but
- 3 I want to make sure that there's some reason that we
- 4 -- that it's not there. And I want to make sure the
- 5 reason is, is because a reason of this Commission,
- 6 not any interpretation. Okay? Anybody else?
- 7 [No audible response.]
- 8 CHAIRMAN HOOD: All right. So we don't need
- 9 to do anything on that. So we'll just move forward.
- MS. SCHELLIN: What meeting do you want to
- 11 consider that at?
- 12 CHAIRMAN HOOD: When is our next meeting?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Our next one is the 29th. So
- 14 and have time for OP. Yes.
- 15 CHAIRMAN HOOD: 29th of February?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. February. Yes, February
- 17 29th.
- 18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Twenty-nine days? Okay. All
- 19 right. So 29th is good for all of us. Okay. All
- 20 right. Anything else on that?
- Okay. Let's go to the consent calendar.
- 22 Zoning Commission Case No. 14-13A, Office of Planning
- 23 Request for Technical Corrections to Zoning
- 24 Commission Order No. 14-13. Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. This is a request

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- 1 from OP for a technical correct to clarify changes to
- 2 the Affordable Housing requirement for a habitable
- 3 penthouse space for residential building when the
- 4 developer chooses to make a contribution to a housing
- 5 trust fund, rather than provide the affordable square
- 6 footage on site as permitted in the approved text.
- 7 Would ask the Commission to consider this technical
- 8 correction, and if approved permit the Office of
- 9 Zoning and OAG to publish a notice of proposed
- 10 rulemaking.
- 11 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Vice Chair Cohen?
- MS. COHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again,
- 13 I think clarity on this issue is very important so I
- 14 -- and I think what we have to do is approve it and
- it has to be advertised. So I would, unless there's
- 16 further discussion, I would approve the technical
- 17 correction to Zoning Commission No. 14-13 and ask for
- 18 a second.
- MR. MAY: Second.
- 20 CHAIRMAN HOOD: It's been moved and properly
- 21 seconded. Any further discussion?
- MR. MILLER: Just briefly, Mr. --
- CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay.
- MR. MILLER: I'm sorry.
- 25 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Commissioner.

- MR. MILLER: I would agree that it's a
- 2 technical correction, Mr. Chairman. It's the method
- 3 of calculation and we were using a reference to
- 4 nonresidential FAR, which wouldn't make sense in this
- 5 particular situation. Needs to be referencing
- 6 residential FAR. So I think it makes sense.
- 7 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I quess maybe I may have
- 8 missed this. I do miss a few things along the line.
- 9 Is there a calculation of about how much would go
- into the housing production trust? What would depend
- on that? What would be the factor, and I'm going to
- 12 ask Ms. Steingasser. Oh, I'm going to ask Mr.
- 13 Lawson.
- MR. LAWSON: Sure. I'll take it. The main
- 15 factor that would affect it would be the size of the
- space itself. So the larger, the penthouse are
- 17 that's devoted to residential space, the larger the
- 18 contribution would end up being.
- Other factors can also enter into it, such as
- 20 the part of the city it's in, because that affects
- land values so there are, you know, some different
- 22 things that affect it. The upshot is that, you know,
- 23 on your instructions we use this existing
- 24 calculation. I just, honestly I just didn't notice
- 25 the reference to nonresidential FAR where it should

- 1 be residential FAR. So it's really just the
- 2 established method of calculation that we discussed
- 3 at the hearing that needs -- it's a technical
- 4 correction to make sure the people can't get out from
- 5 under the requirement.
- 6 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Any further
- 7 discussion?
- 8 [Vote taken.]
- 9 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Not hearing any opposition of
- 10 anyone, any opposition, I might not hear that well.
- 11 Okay, opposition, not hearing any, Ms. Schellin,
- would you record the vote?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. Staff records the
- vote five to zero to zero to approve the technical
- 15 correct and to publish the notice of proposed
- 16 rulemaking in Zoning Commission Case No. 14-13A,
- 17 Commissioner Cohen moving, Commissioner May
- 18 seconding, Commissioners Hood, Miller, and Turnbull
- in support.
- 20 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Next under final
- 21 action, Zoning Commission Case No. 08-33E, MRV
- 22 Holdings, LLC., One Year PUD Time Extension at Parcel
- 23 121/31. Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. As you stated, this
- is a request for a one-year PUD time extension. The

- 1 applicant states that it has diligently attempted to
- 2 negotiate with the necessary parties to amend the
- 3 statement of nondisturbance to allow residential uses
- 4 on the property in order to move forward with the
- 5 project. At Exhibit 4 there's an OP report advising
- 6 that they don't oppose the extension to December
- 7 25th, 2016, would ask the Commission to consider this
- 8 request.
- 9 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Colleagues, the only
- 10 issue I have is the date. Is there -- yeah, I mean,
- 11 because let's be realistic. I mean, should we just
- 12 take it to the end -- we even know that's New Year's
- 13 Eve. But I just think maybe the end of the month,
- that's Christmas Day, December 25th, 2016. The end
- of the month for me.
- MS. COHEN: That's fine.
- 17 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I don't think that's going to
- 18 give us any heartburn.
- MS. COHEN: Mr. Chairman, I think that's, you
- 20 know, a good idea. I just want to state for the
- record that I don't understand how a city and a
- 22 government agency can't come to an agreement much,
- 23 much sooner. I think this has been going on a while
- 24 so I just wanted to state that. It's confusing to me
- 25 that it would take this long, even.

- 1 CHAIRMAN HOOD: And as stated we do have a
- 2 supplemental from the Office of Planning. And that
- 3 actually recommends that we grant the extension to
- 4 the 25th. But we can always move it to the end of
- 5 the year.
- Any further comments on this? If not,
- 7 somebody like to make a motion on this?
- MR. TURNBULL: Mr. Chair, I would move that
- 9 we approve final action for Zoning -- or the
- 10 extension for Zoning Commission 08-33E, MIRV
- 11 Holdings, LLC., one-year PUD time extension at Parcel
- 12 121/31 for a period up to 12/31/2016.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I'll second it. It's been
- moved and properly seconded. Any further discussion?
- [Vote taken.]
- 16 CHAIRMAN HOOD: So ordered. Ms. Schellin,
- would you record the vote?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Staff records the vote five to
- 19 zero to zero to approve the time extension to
- 20 12/31/16, Commissioner Turnbull moving, Commissioner
- 21 Hood seconding, Commissioner's Cohen, Miller, and
- 22 Turnbull in support.
- CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Okay. Next, Zoning
- 24 Commission Case No. 15-14, D.C. Water and Sewer
- 25 Authority, Consolidated PUD and Related Map Amendment

- 1 at Square 744S and 744SS. Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. At Exhibits 39,
- 3 through 39B and 40, the applicant's filings after
- 4 proposed action was taken, and at Exhibit 41 we have
- 5 an NCPC report finding that the project is not
- 6 inconsistent with the Comp Plan for the National
- 7 Capitol. Ask the Commission to consider a final
- 8 action this evening.
- 9 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Somebody like to get
- 10 us started on this. Let me pull up the case. Any
- 11 comments? Anything that we've asked for?
- MR. TURNBULL: Well, Mr. Chair, I just want
- 13 to -- we did get a submission of new drawings for the
- 14 rooftop, and I think they've met all of the concerns
- 15 that we had in the hearing on the revised drawing.
- 16 It will be incorporated into the order, so I feel
- 17 comfortable that they've addressed what we wanted
- 18 them to.
- 19 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Thank you. Vice Chair
- 20 Cohen.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think
- 22 this is a building that is one of great beauty and
- will enhance the neighborhood that it's part of, and
- 24 I would then -- unless there are additional questions
- or comments, move to approve Zoning Case No. 15-14,

- 1 District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority,
- 2 Consolidated PUD and Related Map Amendment at Squares
- 3 744S and 744SS, and ask for a second.
- 4 MR. MR. MILLER: Second.
- 5 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. It's been moved and
- 6 properly seconded. Any further discussion?
- Just give me one moment, please.
- MR. MILLER: In the pause, I'll fill the
- 9 pause, Mr. Chairman. I would note that it's a LEED
- 10 Platinum building, which we don't see every day down
- 11 here. I hope we don't see it reflected in our water
- 12 and sewer rates.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. I was looking for my
- notes but I don't know how my notes are missing on
- 15 the surface. But anyway, okay. Anything else? Any
- 16 further discussion?
- 17 [Vote taken.]
- 18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Ms. Schellin, would you
- 19 please record the vote?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Staff records the vote five to
- 21 zero to zero to approve final action in Zoning
- 22 Commission Case No. 15-14, Commissioner Cohen moving,
- 23 Commissioner Miller seconding, Commissioners Hood,
- 24 May, and Turnbull in support.
- 25 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Proposed action, Zoning

- 1 Commission Case No. 14-24, 1900 11th Street
- 2 Northwest, LLC., Map Amendment and Variances at
- 3 Square 2848. Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: At Exhibit 46 we have an OP
- supplemental report, Exhibits 47, 49, and 50 are the
- 6 applicant's post-hearing submissions. And at Exhibit
- 7 51 we have the Kenyon Street's post-hearing
- 8 submission. Would ask the Commission to consider
- proposed action on this case this evening.
- 10 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Commissioners, any
- 11 comments of anything that we've asked for? Ready to
- 12 discuss this?
- MR. MAY: I'll talk about one issue.
- 14 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Sure. Thank you.
- MR. MAY: Which is the questions that we had
- 16 raised about the court and how that is measured. And
- 17 I guess I have to concur with what the Office of
- 18 Planning reported and what the applicant reported,
- and what the you know, transiting information from
- 20 the Zoning Administrator. But I think it does point
- out a glitch, if you will, in the Zoning Regulations,
- because theoretically, you know, one could have a
- 23 court of, you know, almost no size at all, no
- 24 dimension whatsoever along part of it so long as you
- 25 can fit that circle in.

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- And that's what happened here. They have a
- 2 circle and then part of the court is only three and a
- 3 half feet wide, which I mean, this is not really
- 4 critical to the map amendment, nor is it critical to
- 5 the relief that's granted. But I appreciate the fact
- 6 that it was investigated and I think that we need to
- 7 have some further discussion with the Office of
- 8 Planning because I think there ought to be, even with
- 9 an irregular court there ought to be some minimum
- 10 dimensions that are required. Particularly when
- 11 you're abutting another property.
- So, I'm not sure what that minimum is. Maybe
- it's the minimum that's required for a given, you
- 14 know, for a side yard in that circumstance. I'm not
- 15 sur. But it seems sort of crazy to me that you could
- 16 have a, you know, a -- they could theoretically have
- 17 like a six-inch portion of that court, six inches
- 18 wide and it would still meet the definition the way
- it's been defined, and that just doesn't seem right.
- I can see some circumstances where that's
- 21 perfectly fine, where, you know, you're abutting an
- 22 ally or something like that. But when you're
- 23 abutting another property it doesn't make any sense.
- 24 So.
- 25 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Any other comments?

- MR. TURNBULL: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I would agree
- with Commissioner May. I think -- Commissioner May
- 3 on this in that we're sort of -- we've fallen victim
- 4 to our own zoning regs at uncertain aspects that I --
- s which -- and I think it's something that we can -- we
- 6 need to look at more thoroughly, and to address it so
- 7 that we don't have these situations reoccurring.
- 8 It's awkward at best, I think, to end up with a
- 9 situation like this.
- MR. MAY: So just on that subject, Mr.
- 11 Chairman, I'm wondering if we might actually request
- of the Office of Planning tonight that they
- investigate that issue and report back to us, and if
- 14 appropriate, submit appropriate language to amend the
- 15 regulations.
- 16 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Are we -- I mean, holding
- 17 this case up or you just --
- MR. MAY: No. Again, it really doesn't have
- 19 much bearing on this case.
- 20 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Court issue.
- MR. MAY: I mean, you know, I think the
- 22 question that had to be proved to me was that, you
- 23 know, is this court as they've shown it in their
- 24 drawings, does it actually comply with the
- 25 regulations? And it does. I don't -- you know, I

- 1 think in principal it should not, but it does. So I
- 2 don't see any reason to hold up this case on the
- 3 basis of that. But I think it's an issue that I
- 4 would appreciate the Office of Planning take another
- 5 look at and see if it's appropriate to amend the
- 6 text; amend the regulations to address this sort of
- 7 circumstance.
- 8 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. I quess we will make
- 9 that our formal request. Any objections?
- MS. COHEN: No.
- 11 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Any other comments on
- 12 this? Any comments about the -- I think the group
- was the Yes We Can Cooperative, which was opposed
- 14 during the hearing. Comments on any of that? And I
- 15 think Commissioner May talked about the -- already
- 16 talked about the court issue and the response from
- 17 the Zoning Administrator.
- MS. COHEN: Mr. Chairman.
- 19 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Yes.
- MS. COHEN: I think we need to consider
- 21 whether we should have a time limit in granting the
- variance. And I think that a two-year time limit
- 23 might be appropriate.
- MR. MAY: So I mean, that, as we would have
- in a BZA case. And as I understand there can be some

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- 1 -- one extension of that under the BZA rules?
- 2 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I thought we changed that.
- MR. RITTING: Contemporaneous, I just can't
- 4 answer. I just don't know the answer.
- 5 CHAIRMAN HOOD: It used to be just one.
- 6 MR. RITTING: But there is a possibility of
- 7 extension.
- MR. MAY: Yeah.
- 9 MR. RITTING: I can't remember what it was.
- MR. MAY: I thought it was that there used to
- 11 be none and now there is one. Now they can do a one-
- 12 year extension.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I thought it was one and we
- 14 extended it so they can have more than one. But
- 15 anyway, we're in the ball park.
- MR. MAY: Right.
- 17 CHAIRMAN HOOD: So we'll -- yeah.
- MR. MAY: Yeah.
- 19 CHAIRMAN HOOD: There's a lot of stuff to
- 20 remember up here. Commissioner Miller.
- MR. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Did we
- 22 also want to add to the variance request, the
- 23 condition that the applicant has voluntarily offered
- 24 to require that the project be built generally
- 25 according to the plans that were submitted because

- 1 there were some mitigating design issues that helped
- 2 mitigate some of the neighbors' concerns. We don't
- 3 normally do a condition on a map amendment, but we do
- 4 do conditions on a variance, although the variance
- 5 that's being asked for related to parking has really
- 6 nothing to do with the building design. But I think
- your time limit suggestion, along with the condition
- 8 is one way to try to mitigate because a matter of
- 9 right scenario under the existing R-4 zoning or under
- 10 the requested map amendment to R-5-B zoning could
- 11 have a more detrimental effect on the neighborhood
- than what's been proposed. So that would be my
- 13 suggestion that we add the condition to your
- 14 suggestion on the time limit.
- 15 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Any objection to the
- 16 addition?
- Okay. We do have a -- I was reviewing again
- 18 the findings of facts from the Kenyon Street Yes We
- 19 Can Cooperative party. Colleagues, is there anything
- 20 in there that we'd like to see, put in anything that
- we're moving forward, before we take final?
- [No audible response.]
- CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. And that's Exhibit 51.
- Okay. Anything else? And I would agree with
- 25 Commissioner Miller's last statement. I think that

- 1 might help alleviate, as he mentioned, some of the
- 2 concerns we had heard from Yes We Can Cooperative.
- Anything else? Nothing else?
- 4 MR. MAY: Mr. Chairman.
- 5 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Yes.
- 6 MR. MAY: Yeah. So I think this is a real --
- 7 this is a difficult case to decide because what's
- 8 being proposed here, I think in terms of the, you
- 9 know, the actual plans that are being proposed, I
- 10 think is better than -- a better outcome than might
- occur if this were simply a matter of right
- development under R-4, or you know, or R-5-B.
- And so, I mean, I think generally speaking
- it's not a bad idea. I mean, I think that the -- you
- 15 know, we can meet the threshold for the map amendment
- 16 being -- and its consistency with the Comp Plan,
- 17 those sorts of questions. But it's -- and I
- understand and appreciate the concerns of the
- immediate neighbors, but the majority of the concerns
- 20 that they had are concerns that are not -- don't
- 21 directly relate to the map amendment. There are
- 22 concerns about light and air across a neighbor's
- 23 property, which, you know, we're not entitled to.
- We're entitled to have, you know, to make good use of
- our property. But the fact is that the abutting

- 1 property is designed such as way that it's almost
- 2 guaranteed to be adversely affected by any kind of
- 3 development on the adjacent property.
- And I think the applicant in this case,
- s assuming they go ahead and build the building,
- 6 they're actually going to wind up with a better
- 7 result. The abutting neighbor is going to wind up
- 8 with a better result than would happen under matter
- 9 of right.
- It is a bit of a gamble because if the
- 11 applicant doesn't actually develop the property
- according to the plans, essentially the property has
- 13 been rezoned and a matter of right R-5-B development
- 14 could occur. But I think we, in light of all of the
- 15 testimony that we heard and things like the
- 16 recommendation from the Office of Planning, I mean, I
- 17 guess I'm inclined to move forward with this.
- 18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I think that is a very good
- 19 point and I think your analyzation of that whole
- 20 scenario puts us, or puts that community in a better
- 21 place than they possibly may be. So hopefully, as
- you said, this gets built, what's being proposed the
- 23 way it is, so then I think it would be less impact
- 24 this way as opposed to the matter of right, which I
- believe may be more of an impact so.

- MR. MAY: Right. Yeah, and I think we have
- 2 testimony to that affect and evidence to that affect.
- 3 CHAIRMAN HOOD: So somebody like to make a
- 4 motion or do you have additional comments?
- 5 MR. TURNBULL: I would just add that I hope
- 6 that if keeping with the basic scheme that they've
- 7 developed, they might do something more with the
- 8 façade; keep it in keeping with the neighborhood.
- 9 But other than that I think the plan works, but I
- 10 just think architecturally from an elevation on the
- 11 street they could make it more sensitive to the
- neighborhood.
- 13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Somebody like to make a
- 14 motion? Anybody?
- MR. MILLER: Okay, Mr. Chairman, I would move
- 16 that the Zoning Commission take -- are we on proposed
- 17 action?
- 18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Proposed.
- MR. MILLER: Take proposed action on Zoning
- 20 Commission Case No. 14-24, 1900 11th Street
- 21 Northwest, LLC., map amendment and variances at
- 22 Square 2848 with the amendment to add the condition
- 23 that I previously mentioned on the variance and with
- 24 the time limit -- with a time limit on that variance
- as well, as suggested by the Vice Chair, and ask for

- 1 a second.
- MS. COHEN: Second.
- 3 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. It's been moved and
- 4 seconded for proposed action on 14-24. Any further
- 5 discussion?
- [Vote taken.]
- 7 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Ms. Schellin, would you
- 8 record the vote?
- 9 MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. Staff records the
- 10 vote five to zero to zero to approve proposed action
- in Zoning Commission Case No. 14-24 with the
- 12 condition and the two-year time limit on the
- 13 variance. As discussed this evening, Commissioner
- 14 Miller moving, Commissioner Cohen seconding,
- 15 Commissioners Hood, May, and Turnbull in support, and
- 16 I would just remind the applicant that since proposed
- 17 action was taken that they need to provide the
- information in Sections 2403.15 through 2403 -- they
- 19 don't need to?
- Oh, that's right. I'm sorry. Forget about
- 21 it.
- 22 CHAIRMAN HOOD: We're used to doing PUDs. So
- okay. Let's do -- I think this is the last thing
- 24 before we go to hearing action, Ms. Schellin?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Yes.

- 1 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Nothing else after this one,
- 2 after -- okay. Let's go to Zoning Commission Case
- No. 13-14A, Jair Lynch's Development Partners on
- 4 behalf of Vision McMillan Partners and DMPED, and
- 5 Second Stage PUD at Square 3128, Lot 800. Ms.
- 6 Schellin.
- 7 MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. At Exhibits 57 through
- 8 60 we have the applicant's post-hearing submissions
- 9 and we'd ask the Commission to consider proposed
- 10 action.
- 11 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Colleagues, some of
- 12 the things that I -- my notes that I have that we
- asked for, I think we asked for different views, the
- 14 roof plan, art component, are some of the things that
- 15 I jotted down. You may remember some of the things
- 16 that you've asked for. And I know there was a
- 17 question about -- that might have been Commissioner
- 18 Miller, adding the floor to reduce the AMI. I didn't
- 19 see that. Maybe it was in there but, anyway, let me
- 20 open it up for discussion or comments.
- MR. TURNBULL: I'll start off if no one wants
- 22 to.
- We basically had the two options, A and B,
- 24 and then the option, I'll call it C, that
- 25 Commissioner Miller had brought up about possibly

- 1 adding an extra floor. I like Option B. I think
- with the narrower connection between the buildings, I
- 3 think some of their -- the perspectives that they
- 4 show, shows it more transparent. I think that's what
- 5 the Office of Planning was looking for too, trying to
- 6 open up the street. It's less of an impact on the
- 7 street.
- In fact, going through the applicant's even
- 9 statement, he says that they talk about that they
- 10 recapture -- "Reconfiguring the building interior
- 11 space allows them to recapture some of the dwelling
- units that were removed from the span. In the end
- 13 there is a net difference of approximately three
- 14 dwellings between Option A and B. Furthermore, as
- 15 shown on the alternate ground floor plan, the
- 16 elimination of the elevator core has provided
- 17 opportunities for more efficient ground floor on the
- 18 west side of the building, and the potential to
- activate 1st and 3/4 Streets to approximately 5,200
- to 6,100 gross square feet of live, work, dwelling
- units or additional retail space. Thus the
- 22 Commission, if they prefer it."
- Then they talk about adding an extra two
- 24 additional ADU targets at 80 percent AMI. But as I
- 25 say, I think from a planning standpoint it works

- 1 better, it works better, it's less intrusive on the
- 2 space. I'm only saying, why can't they give us 250
- 3 percent AMI in that? I mean, they're getting a more
- 4 efficient -- I mean, when I looked at this building
- 5 before I looked at it, I said, it's awkward. Two
- 6 buildings connected like this. I think there is
- 7 inefficiency in it, that the narrow link has helped
- 8 some of their efficiencies get better. They're
- 9 getting some bonuses on it.
- My feeling is, we need Option B. But I would
- 11 still like them to proffer two units at 50 percent,
- one in each building. I mean, they're getting --
- 13 this is an awkward space, which they really haven't
- 14 dealt with that well. I mean, the building looks
- 15 better, I think, with the narrower connection. I
- 16 think it works better. And I think we ought to ask
- 17 for the 50 percent AMI. I mean, I think it's worth
- 18 it to ask for that. I think it's worth it to get
- 19 that. I mean, but that's just one commissioner
- 20 talking.
- 21 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Commissioner Miller.
- MR. MILLER: I would concur with Commissioner
- 23 Turnbull entirely on that. I think a number of us
- 24 did have a problem aesthetically with the way that
- 25 bridge looked. My Option C was deemed to be

- 1 unfeasible I think, because of the construction
- 2 method that they're using. So I think I agree with
- 3 everything Commissioner Turnbull said and agree with
- 4 him on the 50 percent AMI units as opposed to 80
- 5 percent AMI. I think that's closer to what they're
- 6 targeting throughout this project anyway. So I think
- 7 they can do it.
- MS. COHEN: I concur with my colleagues with
- 9 regard to Option B. I do want to see greater depth
- in affordability so I'll go along with the 50
- 11 percent. The only other issue I want to bring to the
- 12 applicant's attention happens to deal with, and this
- is not a, you know, killer for me, but I don't think
- 14 that they did enough homework when it came to LEED
- 15 Gold. They do commit to Lead Gold for the entire
- 16 property. But I think the most important place for
- 17 LEED Gold is in residential.
- And had they done their homework they would
- 19 have seen that residential can be accomplished, has
- 20 been accomplished, and I don't know who they're
- 21 talking to, but the people I talk to recognize that
- LEED Gold is attainable and affordable. There's been
- 23 pushback all along by the development community with
- regard to LEED, period. First it was too expensive,
- then they recognized that it provides cost savings in

- 1 out years, then they did it like Silver and now
- that's a minimum for everybody. So again, I urge the
- 3 development community to really do their homework and
- 4 recognize that LEED Gold is very important for all
- 5 residential units. It's where people spend most of
- 6 their time.
- As I said, it's not a deal killer for me. I
- 8 think what my colleagues raised is very important and
- 9 I go along with that. Well, I think the people that
- 10 you should talk to is not only the LEED people but
- 11 the Center for Maximum -- Center for Maximum Building
- 12 Systems is very up to date. They have been doing
- 13 this work for more than 35 years. And I think that
- 14 if you got in touch with them or went on their
- website, but also you can go to the -- it's not the
- 16 coalition for sustainable -- the LEED certifiers.
- 17 They can tell you, you know, where to go as well.
- 18 Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you, Vice Chair. And I
- 20 actually asked the Vice Chair if she could assist,
- 21 because a lot of times people don't know. I'm going
- to believe this time people just don't know. It's
- not that they don't want to know or they don't want
- 24 to find out, they just don't know.
- MS. COHEN: Well, I think you're being very

- 1 kind. I just think the development community drags
- 2 its heels on certain issues and I don't see that it
- 3 does anybody any good.
- 4 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. I'm not going to say
- 5 anything else. I tried.
- 6 Okay. Any other comments on this?
- 7 MR. MAY: Mr. Chairman.
- 8 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Commissioner May.
- 9 MR. MAY: Yeah. So, you know, I was a little
- 10 bit torn on which option was better, and I certainly
- 11 do agree that the bridge looks a lot better in Option
- 12 B than in Option A. And I like the idea of
- incorporating some flexibility to do live/work units
- on the ground floor. I think that's an interesting
- 15 concept, and agree that some greater level of
- 16 affordability would be beneficial as well.
- 17 The thing that troubles me about Option B is
- 18 that you basically have one elevator core and it's at
- one end of the H. And so if you have to go to the
- 20 opposite end of the building it's like walking
- another two blocks, you know, after you get off the
- 22 elevator. But you know, if the applicant thinks that
- they can market those units, maybe they just need to
- 24 issue everybody who lives over on that side, a FitBit
- 25 so that they can get credit for all those extra

- 1 steps. I don't know.
- 2 Anyway, you know, I guess I leave it up to
- 3 the applicant. But I do, I think aesthetically I
- 4 think Option B is superior. I am a little
- 5 disappointed that they didn't try to do anything with
- 6 the white metal panel cladding, which I think is --
- you know, it just doesn't age well. I mean, but
- 8 again, it will look really nice when it opens up. I
- 9 hope it looks really nice 10 years later.
- 10 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Any other comments?
- 11 Anything else we need to address in this case? Yeah,
- 12 anything else?
- So I guess it won't do any good if I said I
- 14 liked Option A. But anyway, I guess we'll go with B.
- 15 So. All right. So, anyway. Anything else?
- MR. MILLER: Mr. Chair.
- 17 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Commissioner Miller.
- MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I would move that
- 19 the Zoning Commission take proposed action this
- 20 evening on Zoning Commission Case No. 13-14A, Jair
- 21 Lynch Development Partners on behalf of Vision
- 22 McMillan Partners and DMPED Second Stage PUD at
- 23 Square 3128, Lot 800, and articulate that part of
- 24 that motion is approving Option B as presented in the
- 25 applicant's January 14, 2016 letter to us. And

- 1 although several of us, probably all of us, would
- 2 like see the two additional units that were proffered
- 3 at the 50 percent level, we can't necessarily require
- 4 that. But we think that that's -- given the public
- 5 benefits and the flexibility that we're granting that
- 6 we expect to see it -- we are taking this action with
- 7 the assumption that we will see before final action,
- 8 the proffer that those two additional affordable
- 9 units will be at the 50 percent level.
- So that's a long way of making a motion, but
- 11 I would ask for a second.
- 12 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I'll second that. And I want
- 13 to also echo your last statement. Hopefully by final
- 14 action we will see the lower affordability at 50
- 15 percent. So we'll be looking for that. That's one
- of the things we will be looking for before we take
- 17 final or ask -- that's what we're asking. Again,
- 18 it's not a requirement. We're asking. Especially
- with what's being offered here. So.
- MR. MILLER: And they'll be asking for final,
- 21 SO.
- CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. All right. It's been
- moved and properly seconded. Any further discussion?
- [Vote taken.]
- 25 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Ms. Schellin, would you

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- 1 record the vote?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Staff records the vote
- 3 five to zero to zero to approve proposed action in
- 4 Zoning Commission Case No. 13-14A, approving Option B
- 5 and asking that the two units at 50 percent AMI
- 6 that's been proffered is spelled out. I am assuming
- 7 in the best and final offer process, pursuant to
- 8 2403.15 through 2403.20, Commissioner Miller moving,
- 9 Commissioner Hood seconding, Commissioners Cohen,
- 10 May, and Turnbull in support.
- 11 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. We're going to take a
- 12 five-minute break and then I'm going to turn the rest
- of the proceedings over to the Vice Chair. Thank
- 14 you.
- [Off the record from 7:26 p.m. for a brief
- 16 recess.
- MS. COHEN: Reconvening the meeting. We have
- 18 quite a few hearing cases so Ms. Schellin, let's
- 19 begin with the first one, please. Well, the first
- 20 two. We're going to --
- MS. SCHELLIN: Actually, it goes to OP.
- 22 Hearing actions are OP.
- MS. COHEN: Okay. I somehow thought you also
- 24 read the little, you know, blurb regarding -- all
- 25 right. So OP, we're going to Case No. 15-24, 15-24A.

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- MS. ELLIOT: Thank you, Madam Chair and
- 2 Members of the Commission. For the record, I'm
- 3 Brandice Elliot with the Office of Planning.
- 4 OP recommends setdown for a public hearing of
- 5 the application for a first stage PUD and PUD --
- 6 excuse me, PUD related map amendment to facilitate
- 7 development or additional development in the Florida
- 8 Avenue Market area.
- 9 The development consists of four different
- 10 parcels, and we're providing some visual aids to mix
- 11 things up a little bit tonight. So the map on the
- screen shows all four parcels. Parcels 1 and 2 are
- 13 located on the east side of 6th Street, adjacent to
- 14 Gallaudet University. And Parcels 3 and 4 -- now
- 15 just to note, Parcel 4 is actually the separate case,
- 16 15-24A that I'm wrapping up into this presentation.
- 17 Both of these parcels are located on the west side of
- 18 6th Street and sort of sandwich the existing Union
- 19 Market building.
- So this is what happens when I stray from
- 21 script. All of the parcels are currently zoned C-M-
- 1, and the applicant proposes to rezone Parcels 1 and
- 23 2 to C-3-A, and Parcels 3 and 4 to C-3-C.
- Development on Parcels 1 and 2 would be a
- 25 maximum of 70 feet high and would consist of

- 1 University support uses, retail, residential, and
- office uses, with a combined FAR of 2.63.
- 3 Development on Parcels 3 and 4 would be 120 feet high
- 4 and future ground floor retail with residential use
- 5 above, and a combined FAR of 7.6.
- Parcel 3 does include an open market arcade
- 7 that would feature booths of local artisans and small
- 8 gathering places. And this is an image from the
- 9 applicant's statement showing the arcade. It's in
- 10 the middle of Parcel 3 and it sort of connects across
- 11 6th Street to the campus promenade. And this map
- 12 also shows some of the landscaping that's being
- 13 proposed with this project.
- The applicant has requested flexibility that
- 15 would introduce office use should market conditions
- 16 be favorable, and has provided an alternative
- 17 scenario identified as Scheme B in this submission.
- The applicant has also requested flexibility
- 19 for streetscape design as a cohesive street scape
- 20 design was proffered as a benefit and amenity by the
- 21 applicant of the Union Market development. The
- 22 process of developing the streetscape design is
- 23 underway through DDOT.
- OP has noted some concerns in the report that
- will need to be addressed by the applicant. In

- 1 particular, the applicant's vision of Neal Place,
- which includes a vehicular roadway, does not conform
- 3 to the intent of the Small Area Plan. The Small Area
- 4 Plan consistently refers to the intersection of Neal
- 5 Place and 6th Street as a pedestrian gateway, and the
- 6 block between 5th and 6th Street as pedestrian
- 7 oriented.
- And again, we have some images. These are
- 9 also included in OP's staff report. But just for
- 10 reference, some images for the Small Area Plan, as
- 11 well as the applicant's proposed design for Neal
- 12 Place.
- Union Market continues to thrive despite not
- 14 having a roadway in front of it. So the applicant's
- 15 rationale that retail on Parcel 3 will not be
- 16 successful without a roadway conflicts with what has
- 17 already been demonstrated to the north.
- Other concerns noted in OP's report include
- 19 the need for infrastructure improvements,
- 20 consideration of the impact of development on the
- 21 Gallaudet University Historic District,
- 22 sustainability issues, and further development of the
- 23 alley network around Parcel 3. OP also notes that
- 24 additional information regarding the phasing plan
- 25 should be provided.

- 1 The Small Area Plan anticipates high density
- 2 development in exchange for significant benefits and
- 3 amenities. Through this PUD process the applicant
- 4 would stand to gain up to 80 feet of additional
- 5 building height above the C-M-1 limits, and up to
- 6 approximately 730,000 square feet above matter of
- 7 right floor area. The applicant has provided an
- 8 updated list of contributions that include a deeper
- 9 level of housing affordability, a monetary
- 10 contribution to the study, and design of a new
- 11 entrance at the No MA/Gallaudet Metro Station, LEED
- 12 Silver Building Certification, continued coordination
- of the International Design Competition for Parcels 1
- and 2, 5,000 square feet of retail space to the deaf
- and hard of hearing community at a reduced rate, and
- 16 maker shops when it's feasible.
- OP has noted in the report that the applicant
- 18 should provide a CBE and first source employment
- 19 agreement. However, the applicant has indicated that
- 20 they intend to provide a job program tailored to the
- 21 deaf or hard of hearing in lieu of participating in
- 22 this program. Additional information regarding the
- job plan should be provided.
- The Comprehensive Plan designation for
- 25 Parcels 1 and 2 is institutional, and for Parcels 3

- 1 and 4 is medium density residential, high density
- 2 commercial, and PDR. The proposal for this First
- 3 Stage PUD is not inconsistent with the Comprehensive
- 4 Plan's objectives for the area, and to the
- 5 generalized land use and policy maps. The project
- 6 generally furthers the goals and objectives of the
- 7 Small Area Plan, with the exception of Neal Place.
- 8 OP will continue to work with the applicant
- y to provide the information noted in the report as
- 10 well as anything additional requested by the
- 11 Commission. And I would be happy to answer any
- 12 questions you have.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Commissioners, any
- 14 questions?
- Mr. May, we'll start with you.
- MR. MAY: Yeah, I don't think I have
- 17 questions so much. I mean, but I have a few
- 18 comments. First of all, this is a really, really big
- 19 and complicated thing. And I don't feel like I have
- 20 a whole lot of information yet to be able to
- understand it. But the fact that it's only a Stage 1
- 22 I think is more comforting because you know, we
- 23 certainly don't have to have the architecture well
- 24 defined at this point. It's really just about
- 25 massing.

I think I would agree with all of the Office

- of Planning's comments and concerns having to do with
- 3 the proposal as it is, and I would add to it a little
- 4 bit. I mean, certainly I would underscore the issue
- s about Neal Street, although I'm open to some
- 6 discussion about what it might be. And they
- 7 introduce -- or they use this shared street concept.
- 8 I wouldn't completely close the door on that but I
- 9 think it will depend on where the Office of Planning
- 10 and DDOT actually come down when it comes to
- 11 recommending, you know, whether you recommend
- 12 approval of Stage 1 when we get to the hearing.
- I am concerned about the development
- 14 schedule. And, you know, reading over it several
- 15 times I'm still a little bit unclear about what it
- 16 means. So I think we need to understand that. And
- 17 actually seeing the development schedule in a
- 18 schedule form would be very helpful because it's a
- 19 little bit hard to -- for me to, you know, add two
- years to the end of the date of doing this, and one
- year to the end of the -- you know, it just gets --
- 22 my mind doesn't work that way.
- So that would be a helpful thing to have. I
- 24 also think that -- I mean, I'm seeing some things
- 25 that are implied with the massing diagrams with

- 1 regard to rooftop structures, and I think that, you
- 2 know, the applicant needs to understand that that the
- 3 new -- we are trying to adhere very strictly to
- 4 things like setback requirements on the new -- under
- 5 the new penthouse regulations. So I expect
- 6 everything to be fully compliant with that regard.
- I think the one other thing that I would also
- 8 underscore from the Office of Planning's report, is
- 9 that this is really a very very significant increase
- in density that's being requested. And so far, I
- mean, unless I'm not understanding the value of some
- of the things that are being proposed, what I see so
- 13 far is quite meager. And I think that I'm looking
- 14 for something substantially better in terms of the
- 15 benefits and amenities that would be associated with
- 16 such a huge increase in density. So.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Mr. Turnbull.
- MR. TURNBULL: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
- would echo Commissioner May's comments but first of
- 20 all, Ms. Elliot, I want to thank you for your report.
- 21 Very thorough. Thank you. I agree with all your
- 22 comments. I guess one of my questions is, is any of
- 23 this housing for the university? Do you know?
- MS. ELLIOT: I believe that some of the
- 25 housing on Parcels 1 and 2 may accommodate students,

- 1 but I would have to confirm with the applicant for
- 2 you.
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay. Here is one of the
- 4 things that first struck me. I mean, if this were in
- 5 another part of town, like up by DuPont Circle, I'm
- 6 sure the West End Citizen's Association and Foggy
- 7 Bottom would be here complaining about expansion of
- 8 the university into the neighborhood. Especially I'm
- 9 looking primarily at Parcels 1 and 2, and why this is
- 10 -- this shouldn't be part of the campus plan as an
- amendment or something added to the campus plan.
- 12 This seems like it's a lot of university support.
- And it looks like Mr. Lawson is ready to jump
- out and answer, here.
- MR. LAWSON: Not really. I was just going to
- note that of course under the current zoning the
- zoning is such that it wouldn't be included within
- 18 the campus plan, because the campus plan covers the
- 19 low density residential zoned area. But I think --
- MR. TURNBULL: But how do you account for all
- the retail use, the support use? Where does that get
- 22 counted?
- MR. LAWSON: Sure. I'm not disagreeing with
- 24 that and I think as part of the -- as my memory
- 25 serves me right, is part of when you reviewed the

- 1 campus plan last time, there was some discussion
- 2 about how these pieces of properties would be used
- 3 and would be coordinated with the rest of the campus
- 4 plan. But we can certainly look into that much more
- 5 carefully.
- 6 MR. TURNBULL: Could you? I'm curious. I
- 7 mean, I'm all for universities being successful and
- 8 holding their own. At the same time, I think there
- 9 has to be a checks and balances on some of this, and
- 10 I just want to be able to assure that things are
- 11 being counted in the right column and that's how this
- 12 really works out. So if you could take a look at
- 13 that I would appreciate it.
- And Ms. Elliot, what did -- you mentioned the
- 15 affordable housing and did you say there was extra
- 16 beyond what was required? Or did I misunderstand
- 17 that?
- MS. ELLIOT: No, I did slip that in there.
- 19 So the applicant is proposing -- well, they would
- 20 comply with the IZ requirement of 8 percent at --
- MR. TURNBULL: Eighty.
- MS. ELLIOT: -- 80 percent.
- MR. TURNBULL: Right.
- MS. ELLIOT: Yes, at 80 AMI. But 20 percent
- of that eight percent would be at 50 percent AMI. So

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- 1 it's deeper afford --
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay.
- MS. ELLIOT: It's a deeper level of
- 4 affordability, but not an additional --
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay. So well, you know,
- 6 getting back to what Commissioner May said, they're
- 7 looking for a lot of density here. This is a big
- 8 project. This is a university. I think they can
- 9 look with their developer. I mean, I would like to
- 10 see a proffer a little bit better. I mean, I think
- 11 when you look at the benefits and amenities of what
- is actually happening here, I think the city, as the
- 13 Vice Chair often says, definitely needs more housing
- 14 and affordable housing. So I think this as a proffer
- would make a lot of sense to be able to come and look
- 16 at this a little bit better.
- We're looking at LEED Silver. Again, I would
- 18 echo about going for LEED Gold. And this is -- and
- 19 again, is echoing Commissioner May. This is a large
- 20 project. It's hard to get your hands around what we
- can see on these drawings right here. So I hope as
- we go forward we get better plans and drawings and
- 23 more concise sections or whatever, to know what
- they're actually looking at. So, Madam Chair, I
- 25 think I'm finished.

- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Mr. Miller.
- MR. MILLER: Thank you, Madam Vice Chair, and
- 3 thank you, Ms. Elliot for your comprehensive report.
- I think I agree with most of the
- 5 recommendations. Or almost all of the
- 6 recommendations in your report, with maybe the
- 7 exception as Commissioner May said, I would be open
- 8 to getting more information about the -- and they did
- 9 provide more information on why they think vehicular
- 10 use of Neal Place is necessary for the retail to be
- 11 successful. And I realize that there are examples in
- 12 Union Market where there isn't' the vehicular. But
- 13 there's also examples of large projects, like in, I
- 14 guess the Wharf Project in Southwest where there's a
- 15 lot of shared uses. Of course we don't know how
- 16 successful that all is going to work out.
- But I think we need more discussion about
- 18 that or a response from Office of Planning to the
- 19 letter from the applicant dated January 20th, which
- 20 tried to make the case again for the introduction of
- 21 a single one-way vehicular drive compatible with the
- 22 green space and the outdoor space along Neal Place.
- 23 So, and I think they make a good point about
- 24 pedestrian plazas often not being -- sometimes not
- 25 being successful. We removed several of them

- 1 downtown as I recall, that were put in decades ago.
- So, and I would agree that among the ways
- 3 that the benefits and amenities can be strengthened
- 4 is the LEED Gold that Commissioner Turnbull
- mentioned, as well as the setting aside more than
- 6 just the 20 percent of the 8 percent for 50 percent
- 7 AMI. We have a pending inclusionary zoning case
- 8 which is looking at greater set asides and deeper
- 9 affordability levels which we're going to finally get
- 10 to a hearing, I think, next month.
- So the 80 percent AMI just is so close to
- 12 market rate in the city. It really is not fulfilling
- 13 the need that exists in the city. So I think it
- 14 could be a greater proffer than the 20 percent of the
- 15 8 percent at the 50 percent AMI level. That's a lot
- of percentages throughout there.
- So that's all. I guess I have -- I look
- 18 forward to the hearing; getting more information at
- 19 that time.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Okay. I really am on
- 21 the fence when it comes to Neal Place. I know a
- number of the 1960 closures of streets did not work.
- But on the other hand, in different cities around the
- 24 world it does work. So I'm hoping that DDOT can
- provide us more information with regards to why does

- 1 one work and why another one may not work, because I
- think we should be open-minded about opening up Neal
- 3 Place if the retail will eventually suffer and we'll
- 4 be doing it anyway. So I'd like more information on
- 5 that.
- I think that because Gallaudet does own the
- 7 property for some of the housing, I would like to see
- 8 more of an analysis from Gallaudet as part of the
- 9 applicant. About the affordability of some of its
- own employees being able to live in the neighborhood
- near work. Employee assisted housing has been, in
- 12 the last maybe decade at least, maybe two, very, very
- important to most employers. And it would seem to me
- 14 that Gallaudet has an opportunity to encourage people
- 15 to live near work if they choose. I know students
- 16 live on campus. But again, some of the employees
- 17 probably can't even afford this neighborhood.
- And so I would like that type of an analysis
- 19 from the applicant with regard to, are we providing
- 20 the right housing mix as far as affordability. And I
- 21 would suggest we're not.
- I really appreciate, always, when OP provides
- us with what is going on with PUDs in the surrounding
- 24 area. A few of them have been approved in 2006
- 25 through 2012. I'd like to know if they've been

- 1 built; their actual status. And maybe even if they
- 2 have been built, pictures of them so we can continue
- 3 to evaluate design in relation to what is there, in
- 4 existence.
- Again, this is -- you know, having office in
- 6 this area would seem to be largely related to the
- 7 university. So I would like to have some greater
- 8 idea of what the applicant is thinking with regard to
- 9 who to market the office space to, as well as some of
- 10 the incubator space, who they're hoping to attract.
- 11 We already do have some incubator space in that
- neighborhood and I think that's a real attraction.
- 13 So I'd like to know more about how that all weave
- into what is there. And if it's just expanding
- what's there, I think that could be great.
- Somewhere, and maybe in your review, I have a
- 17 little note to myself, asking about utilities. And I
- 18 think it's really important. And again to get as
- much acceptance of any large project from the
- 20 Metropolitan Police Department, and how again they
- 21 may also have an opinion about Neal Place. So I
- 22 would like to see, you know, what the utilities say,
- what the police department says about this area and
- 24 can it accommodate this greater density.
- 25 And I agree with my colleagues that we do

- 1 need deeper affordability and we do need higher LEED
- 2 -- Gold LEED, we should aim for. And again, if it
- 3 can't happen, why it can't be. You know, I just
- 4 don't like open statements that are sometimes
- substantiated by, "take my word for it."
- So in light of what we've asked for, I think
- 7 I would move to set down Zoning Cases 15-24 and 15-
- 8 24A for First Stage Plan Unit Development and Related
- 9 Zoning Map Amendment for Gallaudet.
- MR. TURNBULL: Second.
- [Vote taken.]
- MS. COHEN: What am I doing wrong? Any
- 13 opposition? Hearing none, Ms. Schellin.
- MR. TURNBULL: I think one of the things is
- 15 that although there's two cases we would have one
- 16 hearing combining both.
- MS. COHEN: Oh, okay. Yes. Thank you for
- 18 clarifying that. So, Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. So staff records the
- 20 vote five to zero to zero to set down Zoning
- 21 Commission Case No. 15-24 and 15-24A, two separate
- 22 cases, both as contested cases, Commissioner Cohen
- 23 moving, Commissioner Turnbull seconding,
- 24 Commissioners May and Miller in support, Commissioner
- 25 Hood in support by absentee ballot.

- MS. COHEN: Thank you, Ms. Schellin. All
- 2 right. Let's move on to --
- MS. SCHELLIN: And just to clarify, all
- 4 documents will just be filed in the one case now.
- MS. COHEN: Yes.
- 6 MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. Thank you. Okay. The
- 7 next hearing action will be Case No. 11-03E. And I
- 8 don't know if you want to combine that with -- no, we
- 9 don't want to combine it. Okay. Mr. Jesick.
- MR. JESICK: Thank you, Madam Chair and
- 11 Members of the Commission. This is an application
- 12 for a second stage planned unit development at the
- 13 7th Street Pier along the wharf. The pier was
- 14 approved as part of the first stage PUD, Case 1103,
- 15 and the applicant has now returned with a final
- 16 design for the pier.
- 17 The pier would extend 432 feet out from 7th
- 18 Street Park into the Washington Channel with a
- 19 slightly arcing design. The pier would include a
- 20 shade structure, a small retail kiosk, bench seating,
- 21 swings, a fire pit, as well as a floating dock where
- 22 kayaks or other small boats could enter the water.
- The decking and much of the furniture would
- 24 be clad in an engineered hardwood. And the proposal
- 25 also includes floating wetlands just to the south of

- 1 the pier.
- Overall, OP supports the design of the pier
- 3 and its construction would not be inconsistent with
- 4 the Comprehensive Plan or the first stage approval
- 5 for the PUD. The Comprehensive Plan calls for
- 6 additional recreation amenities near the water.
- 7 OP therefor can recommend that the
- 8 application be set down for a public hearing. And
- 9 should the Commission schedule a hearing, OP has
- 10 asked the applicant to provide more information on
- 11 their discussions with the Gangplank Marina,
- including the live-aboard residents and specifically
- 13 their comments regarding the relocation and
- 14 transition plan that's laid out in the application.
- Thanks, and I'd be happy to take questions.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Any questions from my
- 17 colleagues? Commissioner Turnbull, are you all
- 18 right? Do you have anything that you want to add?
- MR. TURNBULL: I guess the only -- we're
- 20 going to get better information as we go along,
- 21 better drawings and the floating wetlands is -- I see
- 22 these little oval type things that I'm sure are
- 23 anchored to the ground somehow. And I'm not sure how
- 24 anybody takes care of those, but maybe a little bit
- 25 more information on that.

- You mentioned the kind of wood that it is and
- 2 I see it's an imported wood that's been treated.
- 3 It's from Finland or Sweden, or something like that.
- 4 Forget where it's from.
- MR. JESICK: Yes, one of those countries.
- 6 MR. TURNBULL: One of those Scandinavian
- 7 Countries. I don't have too much angst. I mean, I
- 8 guess the railing is only one side. There's only a
- 9 railing on one side. The rest of it is open for
- 10 access to the water. And there is a fire feature
- 11 down toward one end. I quess that's like an eternal
- 12 -- I mean, is that always on, eternal fire?
- MR. JESICK: I mean, the detail was a little
- 14 vague on the exact nature of that fire feature, but
- 15 we can --
- MR. TURNBULL: Yeah.
- MR. JESICK: -- asked the applicant to
- 18 clarify.
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay. I was just curious.
- 20 This is -- I saw this just as glowing fake logs with
- 21 this fire, even when it's 90 degrees or something out
- there. So I was just curious as to when it becomes
- in use and when it isn't.
- So I really don't have a lot of comments
- 25 about it. I quess we'll just wait until we get to

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- 1 the hearing. I have no problem with setting it down.
- 2 But hopefully we'll get a little bit more
- 3 clarification on one of these drawings and the
- 4 architecture, what it really looks like, and some
- 5 better views. So Madam Chair, that will be it.
- 6 MS. COHEN: Okay. Commissioner Miller, would
- 7 you like to be next?
- MR. MILLER: Sure. Thank you, Madam Vice
- 9 Chair. I don't have a lot of comments either. I
- 10 think in concept this is another exciting component
- of a very large and exciting project that will
- 12 activate the waterfront.
- I too had a question about the fire feature
- and the safety of it. But I think we'll get more
- information at the hearing. So, I'm prepared to move
- 16 to setdown.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. And, Commissioner
- 18 May, any comments? Questions?
- MR. MAY: No. It's unusual that we would
- 20 have a stage two on something that is just an amenity
- 21 feature of the project. So, but no, I don't have any
- 22 initial comments. I look forward to seeing the
- 23 presentation at the hearing and responses to the
- 24 comments of my colleagues.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. And I just would like

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- 1 clarification that, you know, they don't need any
- 2 additional approvals from the Army Corps. I am
- 3 concerned about the, again, having anything that's
- 4 not protected and one can fall into the water. So,
- 5 you know, the guardrails, I really am sensitive
- 6 because -- maybe it's because I'm awkward and klutzy
- 7 myself and need to have protection. So, and also as
- 8 Commissioner Turnbull mentioned, the little islands,
- 9 how are they going to, I mean, be maintained? And I
- 10 just want to make sure that if we could be walked
- 11 through all the flood protection issues that we
- 12 discussed very early on in the process. So I would
- 13 like just to be reminded of them.
- Other than that, do I have a motion to set
- 15 down this project?
- MR. TURNBULL: Yes, Madam Chair. If there is
- 17 no other comments I would move that we set down
- 18 Zoning Case 11-03E, Wharf District Master Plan, LLC.,
- 19 Second Stage PUD at Square 473, and ask for a second.
- MR. MILLER: Second.
- MS. COHEN: Hearing the motion for first and
- 22 second, I'd like to take a vote now of all those in
- 23 favor of setting down.
- [Vote taken.]
- MS. COHEN: Ms. Schellin.

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- MS. SCHELLIN: Staff records the vote five to
- 2 zero to zero to set down Zoning Commission Case No.
- 3 11-03E as a contested case, Commissioner Turnbull
- 4 moving, Commissioner Miller seconding, Commissioners
- 5 Cohen and May in support, Commissioner Hood in
- 6 support by absentee ballot.
- MS. COHEN: The next project is hearing
- 8 action for the 11-03F, Wharf District Master
- 9 Development, Second Stage PUD, and Modification to
- 10 First Stage PUD at Square 473.
- MR. JESICK: Thank you again, Madam Chair,
- 12 Members of the Commission. This application requests
- 13 a modification of the first stage PUD and requests
- 14 approval of a second stage PUD in order to construct
- a commercial building on Pier 4 at the Wharf, and to
- 16 extend the pier further into the Washington Channel.
- As part of the first stage PUD Pier 4 was
- 18 approved for a residential use. However, during
- 19 review by the Army Corps of Engineers, it was
- 20 determined that the pier would not be approved for
- 21 residential uses and the residential use was denied
- 22 by the Corps.
- The applicant therefore seeks to replace the
- 24 residential use with commercial use related to the
- 25 cruise lines on the first floor of the building, and

- 1 to construct additional floors above for office uses.
- The height would be the same as that approved
- 3 with the original stage 1 PUD, and the massing of the
- 4 proposed commercial building would be reduced from
- 5 the massing approved with the residential project.
- The proposed use would not be inconsistent
- 7 with the Comprehensive Plan, and the Office of
- 8 Planning has no objection to the modification of the
- 9 First Stage PUD.
- The second stage PUD, again, is a proposal
- 11 for a three-story commercial building that would
- 12 house cruise line operations and waiting areas on the
- 13 ground floor, and office uses on floors two and
- 14 three. The building would reuse most of the existing
- one-story concrete canopy structure for the ground
- 16 floor, and construct the two additional floors using
- 17 a modern design with concrete and metal panels and
- 18 wood trim surrounding the large windows.
- The existing head house would be rehabbed for
- 20 the use of the cruise lines for ticketing and other
- 21 purposes. And OP generally supports the design of
- the new building and the reuse of the existing
- 23 structures.
- Less detail has been provided for the design
- of the pier itself, or the new extension into the

- 1 channel. And that information should be provided
- 2 prior to a public hearing. But overall OP supports
- 3 the proposal. It is not inconsistent with the
- 4 Comprehensive Plan or the general tenants of the
- 5 first stage PUD, and therefore we can recommend that
- 6 it be set down for a public hearing. Thank you.
- MS. COHEN: And, thank you. Commissioners.
- 8 Commissioner Miller, you want to start?
- 9 MR. MILLER: Sure. Thank you, Madam Vice
- 10 Chair.
- 11 Why did the Army Corps deny residential use?
- 12 I think that's a disappointment.
- MR. JESICK: It's my understanding that the
- 14 Army Corps' position is any use over the water must
- 15 be a water dependent use, and residential just
- doesn't fall into that category, you know, by the
- 17 Corps' definition. So they did not permit the
- 18 applicant to move forward with that use on the pier.
- MR. MILLER: So I guess I just want a little
- 20 more information about whether it's a statutory
- 21 prohibition or regulatory prohibition. Or our
- warrior on the hill, Congresswoman Norton, was very
- 23 instrumental in getting a lot of legislation that was
- 24 needed to effectuate this project. Probably one
- 25 more, she could probably pull off.

- But where were there cruise line operations
- 2 going to be located?
- MR. JESICK: They were going to be on -- I
- 4 believe it was called Pier 3, which was just to the
- 5 north of Pier 4. That was the plan. Today they're
- 6 on both piers. They were going to be consolidated on
- 7 the other pier to the north. When the residential
- 8 use was taken away the applicant decided, let's just
- 9 keep these cruise lines where they are on Pier 4,
- 10 consolidate all the cruise operations here, reuse the
- 11 existing structures, et cetera. It made for a
- 12 slightly more efficient use of the current pier.
- MR. MILLER: Have we already approved Pier 3,
- or is that going to have to be modified in terms of
- what's going on -- so what's the plan for what's
- 16 going to go on Pier 3 instead?
- MR. JESICK: I believe Pier 3 would then
- 18 become an extension of maybe the Gangplank Marina; be
- used for residential, the live-aboards, and of the
- 20 other uses that currently are at the Gangplank. But
- yes, that would require further second stage
- 22 approval.
- MR. MILLER: I guess I don't have too much
- other comment. I mean, it seems like -- I mean, you
- need to have those uses one place or the other. But

- 1 was the design that we're seeing here pretty much the
- 2 design of what the residential was going to be, or
- 3 had we not seen that yet?
- 4 MR. JESICK: The residential building was
- 5 never designed, so to speak. The massing was
- 6 approved as part of the stage one. And that was a
- 7 slightly more massive building. The full height
- 8 seemed to extend for the entire length of the pier,
- 9 where as this one steps down towards the end of the
- 10 main pier.
- MR. MILLER: Right.
- MR. JESICK: So certainly this one has a more
- 13 commercial look to it than I think we would expect
- 14 for a more residential building, and the massing is
- 15 slightly different.
- MR. MILLER: Right. Well, from what detail
- we have, I mean, it's basically attractive. I guess
- 18 I'd like to know more about the outdoor spaces that
- 19 are shown on, particularly on the upper floors and
- 20 who will have -- will the public have access to them?
- 21 They look like they might have great views of what's
- 22 happening down there. And if they can be publically
- 23 accessible though. If it's the private cruise lines
- operations they probably don't want the public --
- 25 well, the public is going to be waiting in line

- 1 somewhere, inside or outside. I guess I want more
- 2 information about the public accessibility of those
- 3 spaces, those terraces, because I think that could be
- 4 an attractive, very attractive public benefit.
- And I think I would, in general, like to see
- 6 more transparency in this building. It just seems a
- 7 little bit boxy. And the only other comment I have
- 8 on design is that mechanical penthouse on the roof.
- 9 It looks rather large. I can't tell if it's meeting
- 10 setback requirements or of if we got information on
- 11 that. So I guess I'd want information about that and
- if it's visibility, it could be reduced. I realize
- it's a small space up there. I mean, the whole
- 14 footprint is pretty small. So it just seems like a
- 15 large mechanical for the 45,000 square feet of office
- 16 use. So I guess I want more information on that.
- 17 And more information on what sustainable features are
- 18 going to be in this building that is over the water.
- So that's about it, Madam Chair. Thank you.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Commissioner
- 21 Turnbull.
- MR. TURNBULL: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- What a different one pier to another can be.
- 24 I was very excited by the last pier. This pier falls
- 25 a little short. And picking up on what Commissioner

- 1 Miller was saying, and I want to carry it a little
- 2 bit further is that, I don't feel this is a very
- 3 friendly place. They're reusing the head house.
- 4 Preservation, reuse, that's good. And they're
- 5 reusing the first floor of the existing, but it looks
- 6 so banal and if I'm going on a cruise we want to
- 7 attract people to go out and get on the river, this
- 8 looks so mundane. I almost don't feel invited to
- 9 come out here.
- I think as Commissioner Miller was saying,
- 11 she wanted something more open, more -- I mean,
- 12 you're going to the river. You want to get out and
- 13 you want to see, you want to see the boats come in,
- 14 you want to -- you know, it's a big deal. You're
- 15 bringing kids along or whatever, it's an environment
- 16 that you want to celebrate going out. This whole
- 17 thing along the wharf was to celebrate the new
- 18 getting to the water.
- And just after going down the whole pier with
- 20 what they were trying to do and you come down to
- 21 here, I just feel it falls short. I just think
- 22 architecturally I want something more fun. I want to
- 23 see something more open and something to enjoy, and
- 24 again, more information on the other little add-on
- 25 pier. I just think there's so much opportunity at

- 1 this pier. And I don't know whether it's a cost-
- 2 cutting measure or -- but I think when you come to
- 3 these piers you want to get out there and enjoy these
- 4 pieces that are -- these things that jut into the
- 5 river, and I think this falls short. I just think
- 6 that they've missed the boat; that there was an
- 7 opportunity here to make this an expression of the
- 8 waterfront and celebrate this and I just think it
- 9 looks like a little mundane little office building
- 10 that they wanted to plop on the pier. And I am very
- 11 saddened by this.
- So I hope they hear these comments and go
- 13 back and rethink some of what they could be doing out
- 14 here. Thank you.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. I love the way you
- 16 described a fun building. And then, Commissioner
- 17 May?
- MR. MAY: Okay. So, I'm not as bothered by
- 19 this. You know, the Wharf Project is huge and it
- 20 extends so far down the waterfront and there is so
- 21 much going on, and there are so many piers and so
- 22 many opportunities, and it's -- you know, the idea of
- 23 making use of this pier with a slightly more intense
- 24 development than what was there before, doesn't
- really bother me. I mean, I don't think it needs --

- 1 not everything needs to be a moment of recreation and
- 2 celebration here. I mean, it's right next to a park
- 3 where that will be occurring. So I'm just really not
- 4 terribly bothered by it. I mean, if I had any
- 5 concerns about it at all it would have to do with how
- 6 tall it is. But as I understand it, it's less tall
- 7 than what was originally approved in stage one. Is
- 8 that right, Mr. Jesick?
- 9 MR. JESICK: The zoning height would be the
- 10 same. They're showing a lower penthouse than what
- 11 was shown in the stage one.
- MR. MAY: Got it. Yeah. So like I said, I'm
- not really that bothered by it and I don't really
- 14 have any other comments. But I certainly don't have
- any objection to the applicant trying to make some
- 16 changes to address the concerns of my fellow
- 17 commissioners.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. I wanted a little bit
- more elaboration from the applicant. I too thought
- 20 that the housing on the water, I know that it was
- 21 probably going to be multi-million dollar apartments
- or condos, but on the other hand we could have gotten
- 23 a lot of tax money from that.
- The Army Corps seems to -- if it's a law
- they're certainly not implementing it the same way in

- 1 every place. Certainly waterfront development has
- 2 occurred, including apartments in Boston, Seattle,
- 3 Portland, so again, I don't know, maybe the
- 4 particular regional office of the Corps, or maybe the
- 5 Corps is concerned about some of the flood
- 6 prevention, that it may not -- it may have dire
- 7 consequences. So I think the applicant needs to be
- 8 more transparent about the conversations they've had
- 9 with the Army Corps.
- I agree with my colleagues, Mr. Turnbull and
- 11 Mr. Miller with regarding to the design of the Pier
- 12 4. I do think it could be lighter. The idea of it
- 13 being fun, I don't think is, you know, necessarily a
- 14 Disneyesque fun. But something that is more
- 15 attractive to investigate what it is.
- And then I'd like some information on how
- 17 they will manage the people who will be there waiting
- in line for tickets or to embark. You know, how are
- 19 they going to manage those lines that often prevent
- 20 people from getting from point a to point b because
- there's a line that they have to go through or
- 22 around. So I think that will be helpful.
- And then finally, I was under the impression
- 24 that even though the applicant requests flexibility
- to locate the Pier 4 parking elsewhere, other than on

- 1 the subject property, I thought that was part of the
- 2 original plan for this, that they weren't going to
- 3 have parking for Pier 4, but I assume DDOT will
- 4 comment on that.
- So those are my questions and I will now
- 6 entertain a motion. Does anybody want to provide a
- 7 motion?
- MR. MAY: Madam Chair, I would move that we
- set down Zoning Commission Case No. 11-03F, Second
- 10 Stage PUD and Modification to First Stage PUD at
- 11 Square 473, and this is for the Pier 4 Development.
- MS. COHEN: I will second that and take a
- 13 vote now.
- [Vote taken.]
- MS. COHEN: Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, staff records the vote
- 17 five to zero to zero to set down Zoning Commission
- 18 Case No. 11-03F as a contested case, Commissioner May
- moving, Commissioner Cohen seconding, Commissioners
- 20 Miller and Turnbull in support, Commissioner Hood in
- 21 support by absentee ballot.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. We move along to Case
- No. 15-29, hearing action on Jemal's Gateway D.C.,
- LLC., Consolidated PUD and Related Map Amendment at
- 25 Square 2960. Mr. Mordfin.

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- MR. MORDFIN: Good evening, Members of the
- 2 Commission. The applicant is requesting a
- 3 consolidated planned unit development and related map
- 4 amendment for the development of a mixed use building
- 5 consisting of residential retail and office uses.
- 6 The site is an irregular shaped lot at the corner of
- 7 Georgia and Eastern Avenues, a gateway location on a
- 8 great street.
- The proposed building would include 199
- 10 apartment units, a full sized grocery store,
- 11 community space, below grade parking, and internal
- 12 loading facilities. The proposal will provide four
- 13 percent GFA for households earning up to 50 percent
- 14 AMI, four percent for up to 80 percent AMI, plus an
- 15 additional eight percent at 80 percent AMI to be set
- 16 aside for senior citizens.
- 17 A map amendment is requested from the C-2-A
- 18 to the C-2-B PUD for the portion of the site fronting
- on Georgia, Alaska, and Eastern Avenues, and from the
- 20 R-1-B to the C-2-B for the remainder of the site to
- 21 accommodate building height and FAR.
- 22 Flexibility requested includes open courts,
- 23 compact parking, and loading. The applicant proposes
- 24 benefits as are enumerated in the OP report under
- 25 Section 8.

- 1 The future land use map recommends mixed use
- 2 for the subject property, including moderate density
- 3 residential and low density commercial.
- The application is in conformance with
- 5 several elements of the Comprehensive Plan, including
- 6 the upper Georgia Avenue Plan, Great Streets
- 7 Redevelopment Plan, and that -- Upper Georgia Avenue
- 8 Great Streets Redevelopment Plan, and that it would
- 9 provide for a mixed use building of up to 200 new
- 10 dwelling units and a 56,000 square foot grocery
- 11 store.
- However, as a PUD site along a great street
- and at a gateway location, this application is the
- opportunity to anchor this property at an entrance to
- 15 the District. Although the applicant has submitted
- 16 some revised drawings since the filing of the
- 17 application addressing the residential windows
- 18 proposed to face the one-family dwellings to the
- 19 west, OP still finds that the design of the building,
- 20 instead of reading horizontal separating the
- residential from the commercial uses of the building,
- reads vertically resulting in an office-like
- 23 appearance to the façade.
- The applicant has met with the Public Space
- 25 Committee in redesigning the space between the

- 1 building restriction line and Alaska Avenue to their
- 2 satisfaction, including the provision of in-ground
- 3 plantings. OP will continue to work with the
- 4 applicant to refine the application and provide
- 5 additional information prior to the public hearing,
- 6 including the remaining items contained on page 1 of
- 7 the setdown report should the Commission set this
- 8 application down.
- Therefore, the Office of Planning recommends
- 10 that the Commission set down the subject application.
- 11 Thank you, and I'm available for questions.
- MS. COHEN: And, thank you. Okay. Any
- 13 questions? Commissioner May, do you mind starting,
- 14 please?
- MR. MAY: Yeah. I don't have a lot to say
- 16 about this one. I agree with the Office of
- 17 Planning's comments about the project from their
- 18 report, and I also agree with the concern about how
- 19 it reads as largely commercial.
- I do think we would be concerned about
- 21 exactly what's going on with some of the courtyard
- 22 finishes and things like that, the sort of things
- that we're typically a bit concerned about. You
- 24 know, it calls out what the materials are. I mean,
- 25 it's actually a pretty thorough set and hits a lot of

- 1 the right points, but the renderings leave a little
- 2 bit to be desired and I think that some of the
- 3 detailing on the building, particularly the tops of
- 4 the building, are -- there is just not, there's not
- 5 much of a top to any of it. So I just think some
- 6 architectural refinement would be helpful.
- And otherwise, I mean, I think there's some
- 8 very exciting aspects to it in terms of the, you
- 9 know, the IZ provision, which I mean, if I understand
- 10 correctly we're talking about a total of 16 percent
- 11 will be IZ.
- MR. MORDFIN: Sixteen percent will be
- 13 affordable. The senior --
- MR. MAY: Affordable.
- MR. MORDFIN: Yeah, because this -- I'm not
- 16 sure how going to --
- MR. MAY: But okay, so 12 percent would be at
- 18 80 percent and four percent would be at 50 percent.
- MR. MORDFIN: Yes.
- MR. MAY: Right. Which is more than we
- usually get. So I mean, I think that's a pretty
- 22 substantial proffer compared to what we usually see
- when a project gets started.
- You know, I do think that there is a certain
- 25 element of this being kind of a regular development.

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- 1 And it is -- I mean, as you say, it's a great street
- 2 and it's a gateway moment, and it kind of calls for
- more than just Harris Teeter, you know, because
- 4 that's kind of what it reads as. But there's no
- 5 reason -- I mean, it's well worth setting down at
- 6 this point, so thank you.
- 7 MS. COHEN: Thank you, Commissioner May.
- 8 Commissioner Turnbull.
- 9 MR. TURNBULL: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- Mr. Mordfin, I want to thank you for your
- 11 report, and I agree with all your comments. I think
- 12 they are very good. You noticed a lot of things that
- 13 I had noticed also, so -- and I would agree with
- 14 Commissioner May with his comments. I guess one of
- 15 the things that I would, again, like I mean, other
- than some better drawings, maybe some better views,
- 17 alleys along the -- along the alleys that as the
- 18 building meets the residential area, the property
- 19 line for that residential area along there, I'd like
- 20 to see really a little bit better views as how
- 21 they're really meeting it and the impact and what it
- 22 really looks like back there.
- But other than that I'm not going to repeat
- 24 much. I think I am for setting it down and I think
- 25 as long as we get some better clarity on the

- 1 drawings, I'm okay with it.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you, Commissioner Turnbull.
- 3 Commissioner Miller.
- 4 MR. MILLER: Thank you, Madam Chair. Vice
- 5 Chair. Yeah, I would echo the Office of Planning's
- 6 comments and those of Commissioner May and Turnbull
- 7 so far. Particularly that it needs to read more
- 8 residential. I don't know, I always like adding more
- 9 balconies but I can't really tell from these
- 10 renderings how many balconies there really are. I
- mean, I see some but I think the more you can have
- 12 the better, and the lighter -- I agree, the lighter
- version material just looks a little too much like --
- 14 reads too much commercial, even though some of that
- 15 façade is obviously meant to be residential because
- where it's located and where I do see balconies.
- So but getting a grocery store and I guess we
- 18 have a letter -- we've got Harris Teeter, right,
- 19 pictured on this thing. They have a letter of intent
- 20 already, or a commitment, or some sort?
- MR. MORDFIN: Yes.
- MR. MILLER: That's fantastic. And this
- 23 gateway project has been a long time coming. It's
- 24 really been -- people been talking about something
- 25 prominent and a gateway there for many decades. So I

- 1 would agree with Mr. Turnbull that we do need better
- 2 perspectives from the adjacent lower scale
- 3 residential and I guess I would also want to know
- 4 whether some of the existing retail there will be
- 5 accommodated in the new retail. Or the other retail
- 6 space beyond the grocery store, or whether what's
- 7 going to happen to them.
- And I also compliment the applicant on this
- being a LEED Gold. It already is at LEED Gold, which
- 10 is good. Which is great.
- I appreciate the greater set aside of
- 12 affordable units. I think the senior units that are
- being set aside, I think if they can include some 50
- 14 percent AMI -- this is a broken record, isn't it?
- MS. COHEN: I think everybody has to hear
- 16 this, though, all the development community.
- MR. MILLER: Yeah. But we appreciate the
- 18 greater set aside than the minimum currently required
- 19 by the current IZ regulations, but I think the senior
- 20 focus units is great, but I think they need to be --
- 21 there need to be some targeted at below 80 percent --
- 22 at the 50 percent level of median family income in
- 23 addition to the 80 percent.
- So other than that I look forward to this
- 25 gateway project finally moving forward.

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- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Just wanted to repeat
- 2 something that Commissioner Miller said. The
- 3 application indicates that the building will be
- 4 designed to LEED Gold standards. That's a
- s residential project with commercial attached to it.
- 6 Again, it's designed to LEED Gold standards. It can
- 7 be done. If only people would put pencil to paper.
- I agree with my colleagues with regard to the
- 9 importance of this corner and the fact is, let me
- 10 just be blunt, I think it needs to be a six-year
- 11 design. It's the entrance into the city and I think
- 12 it really needs to make a statement, a greater
- 13 statement. Or it needs to be explained why it is
- 14 this sort of office looking structure. I don't want
- 15 to in any way imply that it's totally unacceptable.
- 16 It just, I think, needs greater pizazz.
- 17 I'm just looking forward to hearing from DDOT
- 18 with regard to the parking spaces. I think there are
- 19 130. And I don't know how close this is to the
- 20 Metro, but if we could -- you know, I'm just not
- 21 sure. Do you know?
- MR. MORDFIN: It's approximately .7 miles
- 23 from the Silver Springs station.
- MS. COHEN: Yeah, so, you know, I think it's
- 25 well parked and always more -- you know, I think

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- we're more concerned about, you know, housing our
- 2 residents than housing cars. But I don't know what
- 3 the impact is on the neighborhood. Look forward to
- 4 seeing the traffic study.
- 5 So in light of the comments that have been
- 6 made, and I think you know, you did a thorough
- 7 report, I will move to set down Zoning Case No. 15-
- 8 29, Consolidated PUD and PUD Related Map Amendment
- 9 from C-2-A and R-1-B to C-2-B for 7828 Georgia Avenue
- 10 Northwest, and ask for a second.
- MR. MILLER: Second.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you.
- 13 [Vote taken.]
- MS. COHEN: Ms. Schellin.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Staff records the vote five to
- 16 zero to zero to set down Zoning Commission Case No.
- 17 15-29 as a contested case, Commissioner Cohen moving,
- 18 Commissioner Miller seconding, Commissioners May and
- 19 Turnbull in support, Commissioner Hood in support by
- 20 absentee ballot.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you, Ms. Schellin. All
- 22 right. The next case we have is 15-28, Foulger-Pratt
- Development, LLC., Consolidated PUD and Related Map
- 24 Amendment at Square 772.
- Office of Planning, because I forgot your

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- 1 last name. So please introduce yourself.
- MS. RAPPOLT: Sure. Megan Rappolt for the
- 3 record, with OP.
- Thank you, Vice Chair Cohen and Members of
- 5 the Commission. OP recommends the Zoning Commission
- 6 set down the applicant's request for a PUD and
- 7 related zoning map amendment to the C-3-C zoning
- 8 district for the property known as 301 and 331 N
- 9 Street Northeast, which is currently zoned to the C-
- 10 M-1 district.
- 11 The PUD consists of primarily two 11-story
- residential buildings totaling 340 to 390 residential
- units, an 11-story hotel of 175 rooms, approximately
- 14 26,0000 square feet of ground floor retail throughout
- 15 the project, and the preservation and adaptive reuse
- of the Capitol Self-Storage building with retail,
- office space, and/or creative uses.
- The proposed FAR of the project is 6.8.
- 19 Sorry, 6.68, which is an increase of 3.68 FAR,
- 20 approximately 250,000 square feet above the matter of
- 21 right density associated with the property.
- The property is one of the few properties
- included in the No-Ma Small Area Plan that is located
- 24 east of the railroad tracks and the No-Ma Metro
- 25 Station.

- 1 As detailed in OP's report, several
- 2 properties located east of the tracks are currently
- 3 in process PUDs, or will include PUDs anticipated to
- 4 be filed in the near future. Additionally, the
- 5 property is in close proximity to the Florida Avenue
- 6 Market area which is currently undergoing a
- 7 significant amount of development interest, and we
- 8 brought this slide for you to take a look at the PUDs
- 9 that are taking place.
- The applicant's property for this case is in
- 11 red. Purple are future PUDs, and then we've noted
- 12 the other PUDs in green for you and noted their
- 13 number.
- In terms of the Comprehensive Plan future
- 15 land use map, the property is appropriate for a
- 16 medium density commercial, medium density
- 17 residential, and PDR uses. Additionally, the
- 18 property is within the No-Ma land use change area on
- 19 the General Policy Map where ultimately the
- 20 development of a high quality mixed use area is
- 21 anticipated.
- There is guidance in the No-Ma Small Area
- 23 Plan for the redevelopment of the property which
- includes a call for -- excuse me, PUD development of
- No-Ma sites, with the greatest densities and building

- 1 heights closest to the Metro Station. The property
- 2 is within 1,000 feet from the Metro station.
- It also calls for the inclusion of creative
- 4 uses like technology companies, graphic designers,
- 5 architects, et cetera. Also retail, mix of uses, and
- 6 the preservation of the Capitol Self Storage
- 7 building. And through its PUD the applicant achieves
- 8 these primary Small Area Plan goals.
- As detailed in OP's report the applicant has
- 10 requested flexibility to allow for the phasing of the
- 11 project and relief from rear yard, penthouse, court
- 12 loading requirements, as well as flexibility for a
- 13 range of uses, including the creative uses already
- 14 mentioned within the preserved Capitol Self Storage
- 15 building.
- In terms of public benefits and amenities,
- 17 the proposal would see landmark designation for the
- 18 Capitol Self Storage building. In terms of other
- 19 benefits, prior the public hearing OP seeks more
- 20 certainty of the applicant's contribution towards the
- 21 efforts to facilitate an eastern No-Ma Metro
- 22 entrance.
- OP also seeks more certainty with regard to
- 24 the implementation of the N Street streetscape
- 25 improvements to which the applicant of Zoning

- 1 Commission Case No. 15-22 is also willing to
- 2 contribute to.
- Finally, OP has made the applicant aware that
- 4 a housing benefit beyond the minimum IZ requirement
- 5 is recommended. The proposal is not inconsistent
- 6 with the proposed zoning district, the Comprehensive
- 7 Plan, and the guidance of the No-Ma Small Area Plan,
- 8 and as such the Office of Planning recommends the PUD
- 9 related map amendment request be set down for public
- 10 hearing. And we'd be happy to take any questions.
- 11 Thank you.
- MS. COHEN: And thank you for your report.
- 13 Who would like to start? Commissioner May? I'm sort
- 14 of getting your --
- MR. MAY: Okay. I can't read some of my
- 16 notes. Man. So, you know, I think this project is
- 17 fine for set down. I appreciate the Office of
- 18 Planning's report and agree with the comments.
- The, let's see, got to go take a look at one
- 20 more thing. Excuse me.
- In terms of the Office of Planning's
- recommendation, I think in particular concern is
- information and detail regarding the public benefit
- 24 described as a provision of regular arts and related
- 25 programming. I thought that was an important

- 1 component of it.
- I think that in terms of the design I'm a
- 3 little bit concerned about what I'm seeing going on
- 4 on the roof and I want to make sure that as this
- 5 develops that the, you know, all of the setback
- 6 requirements are strictly met and that there isn't --
- 7 I mean, we don't try to play around with the new
- 8 setback, or the new penthouse rules. You know,
- g calling the -- well, I don't know. It seems like
- 10 there's a lot going on, on the roof, and I think it
- needs to be tamed a little bit and needs to be
- 12 consistent with the new regulations. I won't go into
- 13 the details of it. I'll leave that up to the Office
- of Planning to work closely with the applicant on
- 15 that as it develops.
- I will also say that I found the drawings to
- 17 be rather confusing at certain points where, you
- 18 know, it's hard to -- you know, you have buildings
- 19 with interior courtyards and as you go up through the
- 20 building it's a little bit hard to tell inside from
- out and what we're seeing in terms of some of the
- 22 lines in the page. So it looks like we're seeing,
- you know, the roof treatment over the historic
- 24 building, and you know, what can we see out from
- 25 there. I mean, it just -- you know, it should be

- very clear when you look at the drawings, what's
- 2 inside the building and what's out. And I think it
- 3 just kind of falls short on that -- in that regard.
- And what else did I have about it? Oh, yeah,
- 5 you know, of particular concern when it comes to the
- 6 rooftop structure there's an elevation on page A15
- 7 which shows an extension of the building that goes --
- 8 that's behind the historic building and goes all the
- 9 way up to the full height of the penthouse. And it
- 10 is continuous with the façade of the building it
- 11 seems, there. So it looks like there's no setback
- whatsoever for that portion.
- It's hard to argue that that's an
- 14 architectural embellishment. It's not the sort of
- 15 place where you'd see a tower element that might
- 16 actually go that high. So I think that's something
- 17 that needs to be fixed. And otherwise, I don't think
- 18 I have any other comments. Thank you.
- MS. COHEN: And thank you. I'll go next
- 20 because I'm used to go going after you.
- I just, again, believe there's a lot of
- 22 flexibility being asked. And in light of that, here
- 23 she goes again. I think we need deeper affordability
- on some of the IZ units and I think we should push
- 25 for LEED Gold. And I agree with Commissioner May

- 1 with regard to the penthouse. And I will now defer
- 2 to my colleagues. So decide between yourselves who
- 3 wants to go next.
- 4 MR. MILLER: I'll go next, I guess, just
- 5 since we're going down the line this time.
- Thank you, Madam Vice Chair. I would agree
- 7 with all of the comments of Office of Planning,
- 8 Commissioner May, and Vice Chair Cohen. Thanks.
- 9 Other than that it will transform a very
- 10 underutilized site in this neighborhood that is
- 11 changing rapidly.
- MR. TURNBULL: I would agree with Ms.
- 13 Rappolt's comments, and Commissioner May, yourself,
- 14 and Commissioner Miller's comments. I would agree,
- it's an important part of Florida Market area that
- 16 needs to be developed. The only -- I guess we do and
- 17 just echoing Commissioner May's comments, we need
- 18 better roof views, sections, plans. We really need
- 19 to know what's going on up at the roof. It would be
- 20 nice to really get some better idea of how they're
- 21 meeting all the setbacks.
- My only other question is -- and I have to
- look -- pull out a drawing here. You know, you have
- 24 this very well-articulated building on 825. It N
- 25 Street. It's 301 and 331 N Street. So you've got

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- 1 this very well-articulated building.
- 2 And then we're transitioning to what could be
- 3 block or brick, or maybe an option for metal panel, I
- 4 think, at some point. And as you turn the corner and
- 5 you go by the preservation, the old storage building,
- 6 and I'm looking at, on A27, 301 and 331, I just, I'm
- 7 not saying it needs to be articulated more. I'm just
- 8 -- I don't know. I mean, I don't mind the insets. I
- 9 guess I really need to know what the material is. Is
- 10 it block? Is it metal panel? I'm not sure really
- 11 what they're going for here.
- But obviously we're going to get sample
- boards and a few other things. So I just again, you
- 14 know, we often talk about how the building is -- you
- 15 view the building from all sides. It's not just
- 16 certain streets. This building is in the round. And
- 17 so I would like to make sure that the transition,
- 18 that the articulation on one side doesn't go --
- 19 there's a certain aspect that I don't mind with this.
- 20 But I would like to know a little bit more about
- 21 this, and not lose some of the character of the
- building as it changes and goes around. So I'd like
- them to maybe take another look at that.
- But other than that, I have no more comments
- 25 and I'm ready to set this down.

- MS. COHEN: So, would you like to make a
- 2 motion?
- MR. TURNBULL: I would. I would move that we
- 4 set down Zoning Case No. 15-28, Foulger-Pratt
- 5 Development, LLC., Consolidated PUD and Related Map
- 6 Amendment at Square 772.
- 7 MR. MILLER: Second.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Hearing that we have
- 9 first, second -- oh, wait, we have one other comment
- 10 from Commissioner May.
- MR. MAY: Right. So I just, looking back
- over the future land use map, it's called out in the
- OP report as medium density commercial and medium
- 14 density residential, and production distribution
- 15 repair. And just looking at the color coding on the
- 16 map, I'm a little confused by that because I'm not
- 17 convinced that it's -- I mean, it looks like it might
- 18 actually be moderate density commercial. I don't
- 19 know. And I don't know that it really makes a
- 20 difference here. But I think we should just get
- 21 clarity on that because it is definitely colored a
- 22 bit differently than the development that's north of
- 23 Florida Avenue.
- So, I'm again, I'm not sure exactly what it
- 25 means, but some clarification, I think, when we get

- 1 to the hearing will be helpful to understand it.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. All right. We have a
- 3 motion and a second. So all those in favor of set
- 4 down.
- 5 [Vote taken.]
- 6 MS. COHEN: Ms. Schellin.
- 7 MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Staff records the vote
- 8 five to zero to zero to set down Zoning Commission
- 9 Case No. 15-28 as a contested case, Commissioner
- 10 Turnbull moving, Commissioner Miller seconding,
- 11 Commissioners Cohen and May in support, Commissioner
- 12 Hood in support by absentee ballot.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. And last but not
- 14 least, is Zoning Case No. 15-33, Consolidated PUD and
- 15 Related Map Amendment from C-M-1 to R-5-B, Bowie
- Redevelopment site, square 1043, Lots 128, 156, 157,
- 17 818, and 819. Ms. Vitale.
- MS. VITALE: Good evening, Madam Chair and
- 19 Members of the Commission. OP is recommending
- 20 setdown of the consolidated PUD and related map
- 21 amendment requested by Insight, LLC. to permit
- 22 development of property in the 1300 block of E Street
- 23 Southeast. The PUD related map amendment from the C-
- M-1 to the R-5-B district would allow for the
- 25 construction of approximately 153 residential units

- 1 and 90 parking spaces on a site that's currently used
- 2 for a trash truck facility and auto collision repair
- 3 business.
- There is an existing row house at 1355 E
- 5 Street Southeast, currently serving as office space
- 6 that the applicant proposes to retain. The four-
- 7 story residential building with habitable penthouse
- 8 would be accessed from a residential lobby on E
- 9 Street. Five residential units would also have
- 10 direct access to E Street, and vehicular access for
- 11 the below grade parking would be via the existing
- improved alley at the western property line, and the
- 13 applicant is proposing to widen that alley from 15 to
- 14 20 feet.
- The proposed 3.0 FAR is permitted by the R-5-
- 16 B PUD. The project would comply with IZ requirements
- 17 for both the residential area and the habitable
- 18 penthouse space. The applicant is requesting
- 19 flexibility for lot occupancy, rear inside yard,
- 20 parking and loading, penthouse enclosing wall
- 21 heights, and to have two buildings on one record lot.
- The site is designated as a neighborhood
- 23 conservation area on the policy map, and for moderate
- 24 density residential on the future land use map. The
- 25 proposal conforms to the Comprehensive Plan's policy

- 1 objectives for the Capitol Hill area. And these
- 2 include the provision of transit accessible in-fill
- 3 housing, as well as the removal of an industrial use
- 4 that is not in keeping with the neighboring
- 5 residential uses.
- There are a number of proposed developments
- 7 in the area, and the applicant is proposing a joint
- 8 package of public space improvements to the Potomac
- 9 Avenue Metro Plaza. This property is approximately
- 10 one quarter of a mile from that Metro Station.
- 11 While OP supports the concept of a
- 12 coordinated benefits package, additional information
- is required for evaluation.
- The applicant has also proposed to coordinate
- 15 with Capitol Hill Village, to provide program and
- 16 service space in that townhouse that will be retained
- on Lot 156. And the applicant continues to work with
- 18 ANC 6B to refine the amenities package.
- 19 OP has identified areas where additional
- 20 information is required in its report, and has
- 21 requested that the applicant provide certain
- 22 transportation related items, including site
- 23 circulation and turning diagrams, as well as the
- 24 refined TDM plan for the project, revised
- 25 architectural elevations, and additional renderings,

- 1 detailed information regarding the IZ compliance, and
- 2 additional information regarding the benefits and
- 3 amenities package.
- The proposed PUD is not inconsistent with the
- 5 Comprehensive Plan; therefore, OP is recommending
- 6 that the application be set down for public hearing.
- 7 Thank you, and I can answer any questions at this
- 8 time.
- 9 MS. COHEN: Thank you for your report.
- 10 Commissioners, who would like to go first? Mr.
- 11 Turnbull?
- MR. TURNBULL: Sure. Well, it's another
- 13 project up in the Capitol Hill area, and we've got a
- 14 couple now that have been going on up there. Good to
- 15 see. I guess my -- I'm okay with setting it down. I
- 16 guess my only question is, architecturally, again,
- 17 just talking about the dark area of the project is
- 18 called out as metal panels. And I'm not sure if
- 19 that's the most appropriate or what it's going to
- 20 look like. I mean, you've got brick around most of
- the orange-reddish -- they've got brick to match a
- lot of the brick in the neighborhood, but then
- 23 there's this -- I'm not opposed to the darker color,
- 24 I'm just wondering if it might be from a texture
- standpoint, better if it was in brick or terracotta

- 1 or something. I'm just concerned about the metal
- 2 panel. So I would like to have some more information
- 3 on that.
- 4 I would also like to see some more
- 5 information on the alley, views down the alley with
- 6 the loading, the garage access, the parking area, how
- 7 you get in and out, and what the impact would be on
- 8 the alley back there. And other than that I'm ready
- 9 to see it at a hearing. And hopefully we'll get some
- 10 more explanatory drawings.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you, Commissioner Miller.
- MR. MILLER: Thank you, Madam Vice Chair.
- 13 You know, I would agree with, again, all of Office of
- 14 Planning's comments and with Commissioner Turnbull's
- 15 comments, particularly on that material, not having a
- 16 problem with the color but I think it would
- 17 definitely look more residential and warm if it had
- 18 the -- if it continued the brick or the terracotta
- 19 like you said. And I'd be interested in the
- 20 perspectives that you're talking about.
- This has habitable space on the penthouse?
- MS. VITALE: Yes, that is correct.
- MR. MILLER: And how much is up there? And
- 24 did that trigger any deeper affordability under our
- 25 new regulations.

- MS. VITALE: The penthouse total GFA is 8,398
- 2 square feet, 6,962 of that is residential floor area.
- 3 That does trigger an IZ requirement, and any of that
- 4 penthouse residential IZ requirement would be at the
- 5 50 percent. A hundred percent of that amount that's
- 6 triggered would have to be at 50 percent AMI.
- 7 MR. MILLER: Thank you very much.
- MS. VITALE: Sure.
- 9 MR. MILLER: I guess I want to see more of
- 10 what that looks like from up there and maybe more --
- 11 just a detailing of that IZ compliance by the
- 12 applicant at the hearing.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Commissioner May.
- MR. MAY: I don't think I have anything else
- 15 to add.
- With regard to -- well, I do. With regard to
- 17 the views, you know, one of the things that has been
- 18 lacking actually, in several of the set downs tonight
- is just a really good bird's eye view that -- so that
- 20 it allows you to understand the massing of the
- 21 things. I mean, this one has it but I think some of
- 22 the other ones don't really. I mean, I think this
- one has it. Gives you some sense of what the
- 24 building looks like in three dimensions. It's very
- 25 hard to understand what the totality of some of the

- 1 other projects were without having that kind of an
- 2 aerial view like we see on page A003. So this is
- 3 really a comment about the other set downs. Thanks.
- 4 MS. COHEN: You're finished?
- 5 MR. MAY: Yes.
- MS. COHEN: All right. Well, the only thing
- 7 that I will add is, again, in the proffers I would
- 8 suggest that the applicant look strongly at upgrading
- 9 to LEED Gold. Other than that, can I get a motion to
- 10 set down this project? Commissioner Miller, are you
- 11 ready?
- MR. MILLER: No.
- MS. COHEN: All right. Then I'll set it
- 14 down.
- MR. MILLER: I just lost my agenda.
- MS. COHEN: I move to set down Zoning Case
- 17 15-33, Consolidated PUD and Related Zoning Map
- 18 Amendment from C-M-1 to R-5-B, Bowie Redevelopment
- 19 Site, Square 1043, Lots 128, 156, 157, 818, and 819,
- 20 and ask for a second.
- MR. MILLER: Second.
- MS. COHEN: Thank you. Okay. Motion and
- 23 second. And let's take a vote.
- [Vote taken.]
- MS. COHEN: Ms. Schellin.

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MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Staff records the vote
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2
   five to zero to set down Zoning Commission
   Case No. 15-33 as a contested case, Commissioner
   Cohen moving, Commissioner Miller seconding,
   Commissioners May and Turnbull in support.
   Commissioner Hood in support by absentee ballot.
6
            MS. COHEN: Any other items, Ms. Schellin?
7
            MS. SCHELLIN: Staff has nothing unless OP
8
   has something. We have nothing. Okay.
            MS. COHEN: Thank you and this meeting is now
10
   adjourned.
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            [Hearing adjourned at 8:51 p.m.]
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