

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Board of Zoning Adjustment



Application No. 18281 of the Association of American Medical Colleges, pursuant to 11 DCMR §§ 3104.1 and 3103.2, for special exception relief under §§ 771.1 and 411.11, relating to penthouse setback requirements, and § 2108.1, relating to the minimum number of required parking spaces and for a variance from § 1701.7, relating to required setbacks for buildings fronting on Mount Vernon square, to construct a new office and retail building with below-grade parking in the DD/C-2-C District at premises 611-627 K Street, N.W., and 616-640 New York Avenue, N.W. (Square 451, Lots 2, 3, 4, 31, 801, 806, 807, 810, 811, 820, 821, 824, 825, 826, and 830).

HEARING DATES: November 29, 2011 and December 20, 2011
DECISION DATE: December 20, 2011

SUMMARY ORDER

SELF-CERTIFIED

The zoning relief requested in this case was self-certified, pursuant to 11 DCMR § 3113.2. (Exhibit 5.)

The Board of Zoning Adjustment ("Board") provided proper and timely notice of the public hearing on this application by publication in the *D.C. Register* and by mail to Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC") 2C, and to owners of property within 200 feet of the site. The site of this application is located within the jurisdiction of ANC 2C, which is automatically a party to this application. ANC 2C submitted a report dated October 12, 2011 in support of the application. In its report the ANC stated that at a regularly scheduled and duly noticed meeting at which a quorum was present and voting, the ANC voted to support the application by a vote of 4:0:0.¹ (Exhibit 31.) Also, the adjacent ANC, ANC 6C, submitted a report dated December 19,

¹ Although not received until November 28, 2011, the Board, by consensus accepted the ANC's report into the record and gave it great weight.

2011 in support of the application. ANC 6C stated that at a regularly scheduled and duly noticed public meeting with a quorum, the ANC voted 6:0:0 in support of the application.² (Exhibit 36.)

The Office of Planning ("OP") submitted a report in support of the application. (Exhibit 29.) Also, the District Department of Transportation ("DDOT") submitted a letter dated November 17, 2011, stating that DDOT had no objection to the application. (Exhibit 28.)

Variance Relief:

As directed by 11 DCMR § 3119.2, the Board has required the Applicant to satisfy the burden of proving the elements that are necessary to establish the case, pursuant to § 3103.2, for an area variance from § 1701.7. No parties appeared at the public hearing in opposition to this application. Accordingly, a decision by the Board to grant this application would not be adverse to any party.

Based upon the record before the Board and having given great weight to the OP and ANC reports filed in this case, the Board concludes that in seeking a variance from § 1701.7, the Applicant has met the burden of proving under 11 DCMR § 3103.2, that there exists an exceptional or extraordinary situation or condition related to the property that creates a practical difficulty for the owner in complying with the Zoning Regulations, and that the relief can be granted without substantial detriment to the public good and without substantially impairing the intent, purpose, and integrity of the zone plan as embodied in the Zoning Regulations and Map.

Special Exception Relief:

As directed by 11 DCMR § 3119.2, the Board has required the Applicant to satisfy the burden of proving the elements that are necessary to establish the case pursuant to § 3104.1, for special exception relief under §§ 771.1, 411.11, and 2108.1. No parties appeared at the public hearing in opposition to this application. Accordingly, a decision by the Board to grant this application would not be adverse to any party. Based upon the record before the Board and having given great weight to the OP and ANC reports filed in this case, the Board concludes that the Applicant has met the burden of proof, pursuant to 11 DCMR §§ 3104.1, 771.1, 411.11, and 2108.1, that the requested relief can be granted as being in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations and Map. The Board further concludes that granting the requested relief will not tend to affect adversely the use of neighboring property in accordance with the Zoning Regulations and Map.

² On November 28, 2011, the Board received a letter from the adjacent ANC, ANC 6C, requesting that it be given time to consider the application at its next regularly scheduled meeting on December 15, 2011. The Board continued the hearing in the case to December 20, 2011, to allow the ANC an opportunity to meet officially and submit a letter of comment. It did so on December 19, 2011. (Exhibit 36.)

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Pursuant to 11 DCMR § 3100.5, the Board has determined to waive the requirement of 11 DCMR § 3125.3, that the order of the Board be accompanied by findings of fact and conclusions of law. The waiver will not prejudice the rights of any party and is appropriate in this case. It is therefore **ORDERED** that this application, pursuant to Exhibit 32 – Revised Plans, be **GRANTED**.

VOTE: **3-0-2** (Meridith H. Moldenhauer, Anthony J. Hood, and Lloyd J. Jordan to APPROVE. Nicole C. Sorg, not participating, and Jeffrey L. Hinkle, not present and not voting.)

BY ORDER OF THE D.C. BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
A majority of the Board members approved the issuance of this order.

ATTESTED BY:


RICHARD S. NERO, JR.
Acting Director, Office of Zoning

FINAL DATE OF ORDER: DEC 22 2011

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR § 3125.9, NO ORDER OF THE BOARD SHALL TAKE EFFECT UNTIL TEN (10) DAYS AFTER IT BECOMES FINAL PURSUANT TO § 3125.6.

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR § 3130, THIS ORDER SHALL NOT BE VALID FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS AFTER IT BECOMES EFFECTIVE UNLESS, WITHIN SUCH TWO-YEAR PERIOD, THE APPLICANT FILES PLANS FOR THE PROPOSED STRUCTURE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING A BUILDING PERMIT, OR THE APPLICANT FILES A REQUEST FOR A TIME EXTENSION PURSUANT TO § 3130.6 AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND THAT SUCH REQUEST IS GRANTED. NO OTHER ACTION, INCLUDING THE FILING OR GRANTING OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO §§ 3129.2 OR 3129.7, SHALL EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD.

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR § 3125, APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE APPROVAL OF THE PLANS SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE (OR ADDITION THERETO) OR THE RENOVATION OR ALTERATION OF AN EXISTING BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. AN APPLICANT SHALL CARRY OUT THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, OR ALTERATION ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLANS APPROVED BY THE BOARD AS THE SAME MAY BE AMENDED AND/OR MODIFIED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE D.C. HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 1977, AS AMENDED, D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 2-1401.01 ET SEQ. (ACT), THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED: RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, AGE, MARITAL STATUS, PERSONAL APPEARANCE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, FAMILIAL STATUS, FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES, MATRICULATION, POLITICAL AFFILIATION, GENETIC INFORMATION, DISABILITY, SOURCE OF INCOME, OR PLACE OF RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS. SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS A FORM OF SEX DISCRIMINATION WHICH IS PROHIBITED BY THE ACT. IN ADDITION, HARASSMENT BASED ON ANY OF THE ABOVE PROTECTED CATEGORIES IS PROHIBITED BY THE ACT. DISCRIMINATION IN VIOLATION OF THE ACT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. VIOLATORS WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.