



Members of the Board:

I, *Paul Chretien*, am owner of California Builders, Inc. and have been in the construction trade for at or about 40 years. I am registered to practice construction home improvement in the District of Columbia, State of Maryland and Commonwealth of Virginia. I have intimate knowledge of the construction process; phases and costs involved with detached single family dwellings for bump-up and bump-out additions.

In my 40 years of experience and knowledge I believe that if this Board were to deny my customers' request for a special exception/variance for a bump up, as compared to a bump out addition at 1415 Otis Street NE ("Project"), the increase in costs to the Project will be at least another \$60,000.00 to my customer. This will impose an undue burden upon them who have been long term residents of the District of Columbia. The additional costs include but are not limited to the following:

I would need to create a construction gravel driveway to allow construction equipment ingress and egress of the Project; the marine clay soil is unsuitable for any bump out and I would have to remove the soil; import construction grade soil; hauling over public roads to/from the Project site that would not be necessary for a bump up addition; cleaning of the roads; use of water truck for street cleaning; extra wide concrete footings/strength; extra thickness to concrete foundation walls; additional rebar; backfill; drain tile; waterproofing; retaining walls; cutting and hauling away established oak shade trees that beautify the area; rough and fine grading etc.

In conclusion, in comparison to a bump up, the bump out would be cost prohibitive to my customer. The bump up is a much cleaner way for my client to get the needed and desired space to their home. My customers' neighbors are all full agreement for the bump up of the home as noted in a signed Petition. I ask for your consideration that you grant the special exception/variance.

I remain,

Paul Chretien
President
California Builders, Inc.

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 18329
EXHIBIT NO. 33

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