

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF PLANNING



TO: Board of Zoning Adjustment

FROM:  Joel Lawson, Associate Director, Development Review

DATE: August 25, 2014

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Expedited Hearing of BZA Application 18842, 4650 Benning Road, S.E. (Fletcher Johnson School Site) (Square 5344, Lot 802) - special exception under subsection 2713.2(a) for a new radio tower/monopole and associated equipment

Pursuant to §3116 of 11 DCMR, the Office of Planning (OP) recommends an expedited hearing for the BZA case 18842, a special exception application of the Government of the District of Columbia for a new 200 foot tall radio tower/monopole and associated equipment at 4650 Benning Road, S.E. (former Fletcher Johnson School Site).

The request is necessary and desirable to avoid unnecessary delay of installation of this component of the public safety radio system. According to the application, this is intended to fill a significant coverage gap and ensure adequate coverage for emergency responders. The application indicates that they have secured both FAA and ANC support. To avoid delay in the issuance of the building permits, OP requests the application receive an expedited hearing. OP is also not opposed to a waiver of the notification rules as requested by the applicant, provided adequate notice is provided to the community.

OP will issue a report on the merits of the application prior to the hearing.