

**From:** ruthhargraves@aol.com [mailto:ruthhargraves@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 07, 2015 11:41 AM  
**To:** Moy, Clifford (DCOZ)  
**Cc:** jmcrane17@gmail.com; panderson@studiolaan.net; minkpatricia44@gmail.com  
**Subject:** 15 Brown's Court SE

Dear Mr. Moy:

I am writing in support of the proposed renovation of 15 Brown's Court SE.

I own and occupy 11 Brown's Court which is directly across the street from #15. Along with other residents of the the court, I believe renovation of #15 will be an enormous asset to the entire neighborhood. As you know, the property was formerly a garage and converted into a residence in the 1980s. However, that conversion did little to improve the exterior of the property and subsequent owners did little to maintain it so it has been an eye sore for many years.

From the point of view of a long time owner on Brown's Court, I can honestly say the current state of #15 marks it as the one real derelict building on the court. All the other properties are well maintained town homes and #15 is the only property on the court about which residents continually complain. I am certain that when the proposed renovation of #15 is completed, property values of other homes in the court will increase.

Last summer Patti Mink (owner of 601 Brown's Court) and I hosted a party for the neighborhood to meet the new owners of #15 and allow them to explain improvements they proposed for the property. Drawings and renderings of the proposed renovations were posted on walls of #15 and architect Phillip Anderson was on hand to answer questions. I can testify that all who attended the party were impressed with the new designs and eager to see them implemented. (For the record, we invited owners and residents of all 23 houses on Brown's Court plus neighbors on surrounding streets such as 6th & 7th Streets SE.) Concerns about disruptions to the court during construction were also raised and we received assurances from the architect and owners about such matters as notifications of construction schedules, placement of dumpsters inside the current patio area of #15 so traffic will not be blocked, clean-up of construction materials, etc.

It had been my plan to attend the BZA hearing in person but the numerous postponements have now made that impossible. (I have a doctor's appointment on March 10 that was made in January when I thought the BZA issue would have been long resolved.) The failure to provide an interpreter for Jessica Crane on several different dates has inconvenienced not only Ms. Crane but also neighbors who would have preferred to testify in person and answer questions from the board about the great amount of neighborhood support for the project.

I trust that even though I cannot attend in person, this letter of support will be entered into the record and given appropriate consideration by the BZA. And that you will notify me in writing of the Board's final decision.

Again, I cannot state strongly enough how eager the neighborhood is to see this project completed.

Ruth Hargraves  
11 Brown's Court SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003