

I write in support of the Woodley Park Community Association's vote to oppose a breach in the cap on commercial space allotted to restaurants in the 2600 block of Connecticut Avenue, NW.

Although I was unable to attend the Community Association's November 2014 general meeting at which a majority of those voting solidly opposed any breach in that cap, as a Woodley Park resident of over 40 years I have seen the cap limiting restaurant tenants allow us to enjoy a modest diversity of services--including a recently arrived ACE hardware store that our community desperately needed for years.

Our neighborhood historically has attracted hotel and Zoo visitors--and the cheap fast-food/quick-service eateries they prefer, but it is important that the BZA recognize the shift in hotel business towards the commercial heart of this city and, additionally, the recent completion of two condo and apartment buildings--one of 200+ units only one block from the Woodley Park commercial district on Connecticut Avenue--that are beginning to shift the demand for services towards community needs over those of casual visitors.

Maintaining a cap on restaurant tenancies in Woodley Park will ensure that the diverse services this growing--and changing--community requires can be met effectively.

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