

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in relation to the alley between A Street NE and East Capitol Avenue. We have lived on A Street for thirteen years and I live behind the lot that had long been a community garden. Neighbors from a stretch of the alley gardened there and children played in the quiet community space for decades. It is disappointing to see that the city is willing to permit a commercial use of a neighborhood alley. That is not where commerce belongs. The families who live on our alley would like to know that the people who are frequenting our alley are part of the community. Space in the alley is part of the character of the city; commercial use is commoditizing our comfortable convivial community and guaranteeing that those neighborhoods and spaces will disappear. That should not be something that non-residents can sell out from under us.

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