

2/20/17

Frederick Hill, Chairman  
Board of Zoning Adjustment  
441 4th St NW, Suite 210S  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Chairperson Hill:

I reside at 4000 Massachusetts Avenue in Ward 3, which is less than three block from 3320 Idaho Avenue. I pass this site multiple times a day. I am writing this letter in full support of the proposed short term family housing at 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW. Without the proposed family housing in Ward 3, the District will not be able to meet its goal of 240 replacement units citywide so D.C. General can finally be closed. Closing DC General, a long-term goal of the District, is widely supported as a great unmet need in the city.

Homelessness is a serious problem in the District. I applaud the government's effort to construct short term housing for families who are homeless and to place this family housing in all Wards. The Ward 3 shelter is designed to accommodate 50 family units in a six-story building. Though concerns have been expressed about the height of the building, I do not believe the design of this facility is incompatible with the neighborhood, nor will its operation adversely affect the surrounding community. In a neighborhood where many high-rise apartment buildings are two and three blocks away, it would actually fit right in.

I urge you to grant the three variances needed to construct this facility at 3320 Idaho Ave. NW: more than one primary structure on the lot, the number of stories and building height as well as the requirement for a loading dock. The public good is served by approving this building.

Sincerely,

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Dennis N. Yedwab  
4000 Massachusetts Avenue NW #128  
Washington, DC 20016