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Frederick Hill, Chairman  
Board of Zoning Adjustment  
441 4th St NW, Suite 210S  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
BZA Case #: 19450, 3320

17 February 2017

Dear Chairperson Hill,

I reside near 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW, the site selected by the D.C. Council for the short-term family emergency shelter in Ward 3. I live within 3 blocks of the proposed shelter. I have read several articles about the proposed shelter and I have reviewed the architectural plans. I understand that the District seeks to construct a six-story shelter, and that they will have to obtain zoning relief from the BZA for building height and number of stories, loading, and parking. I am also aware that the shelter will share the lot with the second district police station. The District has done a positive job of providing information, holding community meetings, and explaining the process needed to operate an emergency shelter at this location.

I am writing this letter to offer my full support for the proposed family shelter at 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW. Homelessness is a serious problem in the District, and I applaud our local government's effort to construct short-term housing for homeless families. The Ward 3 shelter must be able to accommodate 50 units for homeless families, which I understand drives the height and stories requirement. I also understand that others are concerned with the height and parking, but I do not believe this project will adversely affect the surrounding community. Without the proposed shelter at Ward 3, which supports a needed public objective, the District will not be able to meet its goal of closing D.C. General, and we will continue to lack housing for our homeless population. As such, I fully support the short-term family emergency shelter and I hope that ANC 3C and the Board of Zoning Adjustment can support this project as well.

I do not believe that the inconvenience of parking for a resident weighs more heavily than the burdens borne by homeless families. I urge you to consider this in your decision.

Sincerely,



Margaret Bauer  
3519 Porter Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20016