

**FEBRUARY 27, 2017**

**LETTER TO: D.C. ZONING COMMISSION**

**FROM: 56 RESIDENTS OF NEWARK STREET NW, MCLEAN GARDENS and NEIGHBORING STREETS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016**

**SUBJECT: OPPOSITION TO APPLICATION No. 19450  
Temporary Homeless Shelter for Transiently Homeless Families, 3320 Idaho Avenue NW [Site of D.C. District 2 Police Station]  
Washington DC 20016-3738.**

We applaud the District's intent to better deal with homelessness in the District. However, the contemplated site on Idaho Avenue will have significant adverse impacts for those of us who are residents of Newark Street who reside within the 200 foot "interested party" zoning designation and on adjacent streets in McLean Gardens. We are requesting the proposed Temporary Homeless Shelter be relocated to another site and not be built at Idaho Avenue.

Each zoning variance granted in the neighborhood (like the Giant development which added another estimated 200 residences here) seems somehow and unfairly to be an argument for the next. We are at the tipping point where additional changes made to this neighborhood will alter its character beyond recognition. As Councilmember McDuffie said on Fox 5 news a few weeks ago: zoning regulations exist to protect neighborhoods.

The new proposed plan for this government facility further proves the inappropriateness of the Idaho St location in every way -- in addition to the size and scale of the proposed building. These include: construction issues, police displacement, and interference with four public community amenities enjoyed by many -- (1) the playground for small children (2) the dog park, (3) tennis courts, and (4) the community garden. Additionally, it would involve placing police officers' personal and official vehicles on already packed neighborhood streets during construction. We cannot even begin to imagine what parking will be like during the construction period!

In withdrawing and replacing the original plan, the planners have apparently conceded that there are already existing significant neighborhood parking and density problems, especially after dark and on weekends. Their limited (only one day - only 3 observations?) traffic assessment failed to consider all the parking congestion that occurs in this neighborhood from spring-fall community gardeners, diners at the Wisconsin Avenue restaurants during prime parking-need time for families, synagogue events throughout the year (funerals, holy days, literary festivals, etc), and police functions throughout the year (training, major events), the growing popularity of and density created by the new Giant development and the continuing "filling-up" of the Cathedral Commons commercial and rental units which are not even yet fully rented out.

For many years, Newark and 39th Streets have 'hosted' parking for tennis players and the Newark Street Community gardeners. We've been good neighbors and the community's solution for overflow parking for the 2nd District precinct, the Washington Hebrew Congregation, visitors to the dog park and renovated playground, and most recently for people shopping and dining at the new Giant complex. In a word, this neighborhood is maxed out.

The original shelter facility plan didn't meet zoning requirements. This new plan, in another attempt to make the Idaho site work, also does not meet zoning and will violently interfere with the neighborhood, potentially damage important public/community amenities, and make it impossible for residents to park in their own neighborhood.

This proposal will adversely affect the quality of life in our neighborhood around the proposed plan area. This is not in the public interest.

We urge you to consider that the majority of the commendations for the proposed Idaho Street location come from D.C. residents who do not live in this immediate neighborhood. Whereas, we do.

Respectfully Submitted by,

The Undersigned Residents of Newark Street and McLean Gardens and Neighboring Streets. All are homeowners and residents in NW Washington, D.C. 20016

Emily Solomon - 3821 Newark St. #E443  
Dan Gerwitz - 3801 Newark St #B428  
Nellie Awad - 3801 Newark St. #A427  
Suzanne Gralow - 3801 Newark St. #F432  
Carrie Teiken - 3801 Newark St. #C429  
David Hetz - 3801 Newark St. #E431  
Barbara Bermpohl - 3801 Newark St. #D430  
Walter Ford - 3811 Newark St. #B434  
Eric Kleps - 3811 Newark St. #B434  
Judy Jenks - 3811 Newark St. #E437  
Norman Jenks - 3811 Newark St. #E437  
Joelle Myers - 3821 Newark St. #C441  
Stephanie Barton - 3821 Newark St, #F444  
Robert Turner - 3821 Newark St. #F444  
Ann Standrod - 3821 Newark St. #D442  
Rita Perlman - 3821 Newark St. #A439  
Ron Perlman - 3821 Newark St. #A439  
Kunda Ng'andwe - 3831 Newark Street, #A445  
Sally Winthrop - 3831 Newark St. #E449

Nancy Sullivan - 3821 Newark St. #C447  
Deborah Linde - 3871 Newark St. #F474  
Marguerite Pridgen - 3881 Newark St. #F480  
Thomas Mason - 3891 Newark St. NW #B482 (and 3730 39th St.)  
Mary Mason - 3891 Newark St. NW, #B482 (and 3400 39th St.)  
Kathleen Baker - 3238 38th St.  
David Plevan - 3238 38th St.  
Beth Altman - 3460 39th St. #D682  
Lara McCoy Roslof - 3460 39th St. #B680  
Ed Roslof - 3460 39th St. #B680  
Erica Milkovich - 3510 39th St. #A661  
Martin Padilla - 3510 39th St. #A661  
Monika Siulyte - 3541 39th St.  
Margaret Parr-Recard - 3601 39th St. #B332  
Adriana Araujo - 3611 39th St. #A325  
Fessesu Hailu - 3701 39th Street #F186  
Keith Koniow - 3741 39th St. #D208  
Julie Lazar - 3801 39th Street #B80  
Thomas Russell - 3810 39th St. #F126  
Felicia Weiss - 3830 39th St #B110  
Barbara Brown - 3971 Langley Ct. NW #B596  
Julie Armstrong - 3971 Langley Ct. #D616  
Louise Filkins - 3931 Langley Court #C573  
Fred Lindeberg - 3931 Langley Court #C573  
Kerry Dunn - 3815 Porter St. NW, #101  
Susan Bell - 3815 Porter St. NW, #100  
Susan Bodiker - 3848 Porter St #B374  
Frank Hurst - 3871 Porter St. #F294  
Rebecca Eisenberg - 3880 Porter St. #E353  
Yvonne Thayer - 3308 Idaho Ave.  
PJ MCann and Ed An - 3300 Macomb St.  
Fresia Betancourt - 3850 Macomb St.  
Jose Luis Guasch - 3850 Macomb St.  
Katie Wiegmann - 3600 Ordway St.  
Valerie Haselton - 3517 Tilden St.  
Ptryk Drescher - 3517 Tilden St.