

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Eileen Langholtz <davideileen@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2017 5:23 PM  
**To:** Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ); Cevasco, Jenna (EOM); ATD DCOZ; bza.submission@dc.gov  
**Cc:** all@anc3c.org  
**Subject:** OPPOSITION to Shelter at 2nd District Police Station--BZA Case # 19450

**Importance:** High

I oppose the zoning variances requested by the D.C. Department of General Services for the construction of the homeless shelter at the police station at 3320 Idaho Ave., NW (BZA Case No. 19450). ANC 3C voted to oppose the application for construction of the shelter, and I agree that the BZA deny the requests for zoning variances requested by D.C. DGS.

I support the city's efforts to meet the needs of homeless families, but it should do so in a manner that includes community engagement and proper analysis. First, the police station site was selected without any advance analysis and evaluation of alternatives. Indeed, in the only assessment of the site and as noted by ANC 3C, "DGS concluded in April 2016 that the Second District police station was not an appropriate site for a shelter." The local neighborhood and the ANC were excluded from any discussion of the selection of this site.

I am also concerned by the potential adverse impacts on John Eaton Elementary School. As a former parent and current staff member, I note that the school is already over capacity and, unlike every other elementary school throughout Ward 3, has not been renovated. To my knowledge, the city has not budgeted additional funds to meet the needs of educating an unknown number of additional students from the shelter. I am further concerned about potential adverse impacts on the operations of the police. Will public safety suffer during or after construction of the shelter? We are left to guess, because no analysis has been conducted on this question.

Finally, I am also concerned about the extremely high costs of the proposal. Because the site is unsuited for this purpose, the budgeted costs of the project are approximately \$30 million. Given the city's record on similar projects, it is likely that actual costs will be even higher. This is an irresponsible use of taxpayer funds. Scarce public resources should be better managed in order to meet the needs of homeless families.

I urge you to deny the city's request for zoning variances in this case.

Eileen Langholtz / 3610 Ordway Street, NW / Washington, DC 20016