

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Jay Melder <jay.melder@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 3:13 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: Cevasco, Jenna (EOM)
Subject: 19450, 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW - Letter of Support

Attn: Frederick Hill, Chairman

Board of Zoning Adjustment

441 4th St NW, Suite 210S

Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Chairperson Hill,

I reside less than two blocks (0.2 miles) from 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW, the site selected by the D.C. Council for the short-term family emergency shelter in Ward 3. As an employee of the District of Columbia, I have worked closely with colleagues from the D.C. government and my neighbors on many aspects of this project. I have reviewed in detail the architectural plans for the shelter. I understand that the District seeks to construct a six-story shelter, but the District 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 commendable job of providing information, holding community meetings, and explaining the process needed to operate an emergency shelter at this location, and my neighbors have engaged deeply and earnestly in the matter.

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 community's effort to construct short term housing for families experiencing homelessness. 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 some of

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my neighbors 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 residents in our city who experience homelessness. 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.

Sincerely,

Joseph "Jay" A. Melder

3333 Wisconsin Avenue NW, #504

Washington, DC 20016