

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Austin Hinkle <williamaustrinhinkle@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 4:47 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ); hood.stefanie@gmail.com
Subject: Support for 19450, 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW

To whom it may concern,

My name is Austin Hinkle and I live at 3601 39th st NW - a couple blocks from the proposed shelter. I am writing to encourage you to allow an exemption to the zoning rules to allow for the homeless shelter to be built. I am very happy that the city is taking on this effort and know that it will significantly improve the lives of the families who may need to use the shelter. The research clearly shows long term benefits for families and especially children who have the opportunity to live in higher income neighborhoods and the benefits associated with those communities. Further, the most likely age for a person to be homeless is in their early years of life, and we should make every effort to ensure that those children are cared for in the most supportive and safe way possible - our community is a good fit. The needs are very clear and I hope that this shelter will go a long way toward helping our city meet that obligation.

I understand the requested exemptions in terms of building height and parking allocation may be the most controversial. After being a homeowner and living in this community for nearly 3 years I do not believe that those exemptions will have a significant impact on the neighborhood. Less than one block away from the proposed site are multiple buildings just as tall. I'm an persuaded by the traffic and parking evaluations that the city has done, and the estimated 9 street parking spots needed would only have a minimal impact on parking options. I have now been to two public meetings and feel well informed on the development and process for making the decision about where the to place the shelter. Finally, any concerns over having multiple buildings on a single lot feel quite misplaced. The size of that lot is much larger than the lots near by, and across the street are brand new row houses that are much closer together than the shelter and the police station would be.

I'm sure there will never be a site that makes every person happy and certainly the immediate neighbors to the proposed site will be more impacted than other members of the community. However, I am reassured by the actions of the city to date, the plan for the facility, and law enforcement's dedication to ensuring the community maintains a high level of safety.

Best,
Austin Hinkle