

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Kate Bowers <kate.r.bowers@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 9:16 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ); Cevalco, Jenna (EOM)
Subject: Letter of Support for Case No. 19450, 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my support for short-term family housing in Ward 3, and for the zoning relief that has been requested to construct a family shelter on Idaho Ave. NW. I am writing as a resident of Ward 3 who lives a few short blocks from the ANC3C line and who was unable to attend this evening's special community meeting.

Our emergency shelter capacity lags behind that of all other wards. Simply stated, this is an embarrassment. My social obligation to help the District's most vulnerable populations is not dependent on my address, and I welcome the opportunity to share Ward 3's many resources with families residing at the shelter.

Furthermore, while I respect the desire for transparency and opportunities for input into the City Council's decisionmaking process, I also recognize that such procedural concerns must be balanced against the city's need to provide essential services to all of its residents. This includes ensuring that families experiencing homelessness have a safe place to stay.

Accommodating the needs of others in a diverse city is not always easy or comfortable. Though I do not agree with them, I understand the concerns that have been raised by the immediate neighbors of the proposed shelter site. But I believe that construction of a shelter at the proposed site represents a reasonable way for the residents of Ward 3 to do our part to respect the dignity of D.C. families experiencing homelessness. I urge the BZA to support the requested zoning relief and ensure that construction may begin without delay.

Respectfully,
Kate Bowers
Windom Pl. NW (ANC3F)