

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Shelby Kienzle-pappalardo <shelbyekp@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 5:26 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: 19452, 1700 Rhode Island Avenue NE

Dear Board of Zoning Adjustment,

As a Ward 5 resident living at 1118 Staples St NE, I am writing to voice my support for the new family shelter in Ward 5. I work as a case manager with families who are in need of housing. I hear families speak of the run down, unsafe conditions of the current DC General shelter and know how important and desperately necessary alternative shelters are that are clean, safe, and dignified for families.

There is a housing crisis in DC. As housing prices increase there becomes less and less affordable housing for low-income DC residents leading to an increase amount of homeless families and individuals in the city. This shelter is a step in the right direction to improve family homeless services in the district and help families get back on their feet.

Some oppose the shelter stating that there are already many social services and community-based residential services in Ward 5. However, that speaks to the huge need of these services throughout the District and is not a reason to reject a much needed family shelter.

All families, regardless of race or socioeconomic status deserve safe, clean, dignified, shelter. Families, regardless of race or socioeconomic status deserve to live in and be a part of Ward 5. As a Ward 5 resident, I support the family shelter in Ward 5. This shelter would help homeless families in the district and provide safe, clean, dignified shelter for families to regroup and create plans to become more stable.

Sincerely,
Shelby Kienzle-Pappalardo