

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Katherine Raphaelson <kraphaelson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 17, 2017 2:39 PM  
**To:** Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ); Cevasco, Jenna (EOM)  
**Subject:** Oppose BZA Application No 1940 – Proposed Homeless on Idaho Ave

3211 Idaho Ave NW

Washington, DC 20016

February 11, 2017

To: Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment

From: Katherine Raphaelson, owner and resident Idaho Avenue, NW

Subj: Oppose BZA Application No 1940 – Proposed Homeless on Idaho Ave

I do not think it is right for the BZA to approve the variance(s) and allow a six-story building to be put in the parking lot of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Police Station on Idaho Avenue. I was shocked to learn about eleventh-hour changes to the project.

As I understand it the City will now:

- add a level to the parking deck that is proposed (behind the police station), making an unsightly parking deck tower above the community gardens.
- destroy the tennis courts next to the playground and use them for parking.
- remove some of the garden plots and put a road in the community garden.
- increase the budget of this inappropriate project in order to do the above and build new tennis courts after the project is over.

I vehemently oppose the zoning-change requests that would allow a six-story building to be built at the 2D police station – and allow all of this drastic change.

**I am *not* opposed to the idea of smaller shelters. In fact I would support the temporary housing of homeless mothers and children in existing buildings in our neighborhood. One that comes to mind is closer to my home than this proposed project.**

What I resent is the **lack of process and the attempt to rush this project thorough** and shame those in our neighborhood who simply ask for a chance for community input.

**Forcing this large building into the parking lot of the police station is not the way to approach the complicated homeless challenges that we face. A six-story building and three-story parking deck, and the added disruption will destroy the pleasant neighborhood that we live in – and will very likely be an eyesore.**

Again, I support the closing of DC general and support having smaller temporary homeless shelters throughout the city. I would accept and support the housing of homeless mothers and young children in an existing apartment building nearby.

But I urge you to oppose these zoning changes.