

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Carol Cavanaugh <carolcavanaugh@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 4:02 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: Re: Case 19672

Re: Case Number 19672
Case Name: 3608 S Street NW
Relief Sought: Special Exemption

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a resident of Burleith living near the property at 3608 S Street NW. I want to express my strong opposition to this proposed exception. The scale of this expansion is startling. We live in a neighborhood of modest-sized rowhouses designed to be architecturally cohesive. The developer seeks to extend the house 22 feet back beyond the neighbors' back wall (zoning regulations only allow for a 10-foot extension). Additionally, the developer wants to build a third story pop-up with a roof deck. These additions in combination would cause the house to tower over its neighbors, restricting their light and views and changing the whole appearance of that block. My husband and I live two doors down from another house at 37th and T which was similarly expanded. The development has reduced our view to one side and diminished our enjoyment of our garden cultivated over many years. I have lived in Burleith for 13 years, my husband for 30 years, and we are shocked to see the character of the neighborhood changed in such jarring ways by developers who do not even live here.

We are not alone. A recent survey among Burleith residents, asking opinions of the development boom, had 206 respondents. The survey found that 55% expressed opposition to "Rear additions reducing sunlight and views" (with 35% strongly opposed). 42% oppose third-floor pop-ups.

The zoning code recently underwent an overhaul with extensive community input, limiting pop-backs to 10 feet. Regulations have got to be respected and followed. Otherwise, people like us, who pay thousands of dollars in property taxes to live in DC, have no sense that there is honesty and fairness in our government as our quality of life is eroded.

I implore you to follow the zoning code and deny this special exemption.

Sincerely,

Carol Cavanaugh
1816-37th Street NW (between S and T)
Washington DC 20007
202-333-6830