

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment

**FROM:** Maxine Brown-Roberts, Project Manager  
JL Joel Lawson, Associate Director Development Review

**DATE:** March 29, 2016

**SUBJECT:** MODIFICATION REQUEST - BZA Case No. 17300A –  
4925 MacArthur Boulevard, NW, St. Patrick's School  
Request for Minor Modification of Condition of Approval #7.

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### **I. RECOMMENDATION**

Based on discussions with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), the Office of Planning (OP) recommends that the Board deny the modifications as requested by the applicant. However, OP would support an alternate modification to the shuttle bus route that is supported by DDOT.

### **II. BACKGROUND**

In BZA Order 16852-A, approved March 25, 2003 St. Patrick's Protestant Episcopal Church (St. Patrick's) was granted approval for a private school, grades seven through nine, with a maximum of 40 students and a maximum of 12 faculty and staff at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard, NW. It was noted that St. Patrick's also operates an elementary school at 4700 Whitehaven Parkway and a high school at 4880A MacArthur Boulevard, NW. Condition #7 of the order outlined that to minimize traffic coming to the 4925 MacArthur Boulevard campus, due to the pick-up and drop-off students, a shuttle service would be provided where student would be dropped off at the Whitehaven campus in the mornings and be shuttled to the at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard campus. The reverse would take place in the evenings when school is dismissed and the students are shuttled from the 4925 MacArthur Boulevard campus to the Whitehaven campus. (Exhibit 4)

BZA Order 17164 approved the use of the cellar area for classrooms on August 25, 2004. The conditions of BZA Order 16852-A were carried forth in the new order. (Exhibit 4)

BZA Order 17300, effective September 8, 2005, approved an increase in the enrollment of students from 40 to 60. The conditions were retained with some modifications. Condition #7 was modified to allow students to walk between campuses. However, the use and route of the shuttle remained. (Exhibit 4)

### **III. PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

The applicant proposes to modify BZA Order 17300, Condition #7 (c) as follows (modifications are shown in **bold and underline**):

- (c) The shuttle buses shall employ a round-trip route between the Whitehaven campus and the subject property utilizing Whitehaven Parkway, MacArthur Blvd., Arizona Avenue, Loughboro Road, and Foxhall Road back to Whitehaven Parkway. **If traffic conditions allow, the shuttle bus shall be permitted to take a legal U-turn on MacArthur Blvd, at Chain Bridge Road, and return to the Whitehaven campus via MacArthur Blvd.**

The applicant stated that the current route between the campuses is circuitous and the proposal could shorten the route and the time between trips. (Exhibit 5)

#### **IV. OP ANALYSIS OF THE MODIFICATIONS**

The proposed condition regarding the shuttle service and the route is a transportation issue and would not significantly alter the operations of the school. The shuttle route was agreed to and recommended as a condition of approval by the Department of Transportation (DDOT). In consultations with DDOT, OP was told that they are not in support of the proposed changes to the route. OP therefore recommends denial of the proposed modification, but would support an alternate modification that is supported by DDOT.

#### **V. COMMENTS OF OTHER DISTRICT AGENCIES**

DDOT is expected to submit comments under separate cover.

#### **VI. COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

ANC: ANC 3D has submitted a resolution in support of the applicant's requested condition modification.