

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



d. Policy, Planning, and Sustainability Administration

MEMORANDUM

TO: District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment

FROM: Samuel Zimbabwe
Associate Director

DATE: March 8, 2016

SUBJECT: BZA Case No. 19206 – 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE

APPLICATION

1302 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, LLC (the "Applicant"), requests variances from the FAR requirements under § 771.2, the lot occupancy requirements under § 774.1, the nonconforming structure requirements under § 2001.3, and the off-street parking requirements under § 2101.1, to permit a third floor addition to an existing two-story, mixed-use building in the C-2-A District at premises 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue SE (Square 1043, Lot 122). The Applicant is seeking full parking relief from the two parking spaces that are required by zoning. Of note, the proposed project is located in a Residential Parking Permit (RPP) eligible zone.

RECOMMENDATION

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is committed to achieve an exceptional quality of life in the nation's capital by encouraging sustainable travel practices, safer streets, and outstanding access to goods and services. As one means to achieve this vision, DDOT works through the zoning process to ensure that impacts from new developments are manageable within and take advantage of the District's multimodal transportation network.

The purpose of DDOT's review is to assess the potential safety and capacity impacts of the proposed action on the District's transportation network and, as necessary, propose mitigations that are commensurate with the action. After an extensive, multi-administration review of the case materials submitted by the Applicant, DDOT finds a bay window with a door opening outward into public space. This is unlikely to be acceptable and unlikely to be permitted. In addition, DDOT recommends that the Applicant provide access to trash for residential and restaurant use, without exiting the building.

Board of Zoning Adjustment

District of Columbia

The project has the potential to generate minor impacts to on-street parking conditions in the area. Vehicle parking demand may increase slightly as a result of the project, inducing a higher level of parking utilization in the immediate area. Despite this minor potential impact, DDOT has no objection to the approval of the requested variances.

DDOT's lack of objection to these zoning variances should not be viewed as an approval of public space elements. If any portion of the project has elements in the public space requiring approval, the Applicant is required to pursue a public space permit through DDOT's permitting process. The Applicant may refer to the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations and DDOT's Design and Engineering Manual for specific controls of public space. A summary can be found in DDOT's Public Realm Design Manual.

SZ:rj