

2920 17<sup>th</sup> St NE  
Washington, DC 20018  
February 28, 2017

Attn: Frederick Hill, Chairman  
Board of Zoning Adjustment  
441 4<sup>th</sup> St NW, Suite 2108  
Washington, DC 20001

Subject: BZA Application No. 19452

Dear Mr. Hill,

I live just across the street, about 60 feet from the Rhode Island short term family housing proposed site. I am a proud veteran of the Army Nurse Corps, having served in the field in Iraq. My family has lived here since 2001, and I have invested my life savings in this house and my mother's retirement is invested in this house. This is all we have.

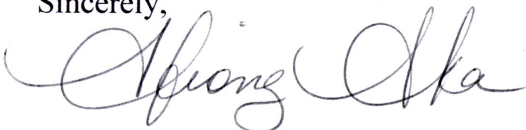
The city says that there will be no adverse impact of placement of the shelter at the end of our block. City Council Chair Phil Mendelson said there is no evidence that property values will be affected. But some of my neighbors are already planning on selling their houses and leaving, and the special exceptions for this project haven't even been approved by the BZA. Given the tactics that the city used to vote for this without letting us know, the District's credibility is in the toilet in this neighborhood. We simply don't believe any of these assurances, and frankly they do not seem correct with people already planning their exodus.

The proposed building is so enormously tall that it will block the morning sun to the roses in my front yard for most the year (they don't have afternoon sun). My flowers give me enjoyment and inspiration when I come home after the end of a difficult work shift. I don't want to lose them.

When the city says there will be no adverse impact to me they obviously don't think that sunlight matters. It's basic human physiology that sunlight releases serotonin in the body, helping us to be relaxed and focused. The reduced sunlight, especially in the winter, will have a negative psychological impact on me and my family and my neighbors—many of whom are elderly and handicapped.

I don't oppose having homeless families in the old police station, to give them a place to stay until they get permanent housing. But putting a 6 story building on our street is just nonsense, it is so out-of-proportion, and the number of people, 150, is equally out of proportion to the families on this street. Please reject the city's application for all these special exceptions for this project.

Sincerely,



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