

February 23, 2017

BZA Case # 19452

Dear Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustments,

As a member of the Brookland community, I oppose the poor design plans that have been proposed for 1700 Rhode Island Avenue NE by the DC Department of General Services. While I support the city's goal of ending homelessness in DC and the creation of a temporary family homeless shelter, I believe the city can do better with its design plans to both house the homeless and support the local neighborhood.

I urge you to uphold the zoning regulations for 1700 Rhode Island Avenue NE and deny the zoning special exceptions and variances requested by the DC Department of General Services in case 19452.

The current shelter plan for this site will meet shelter recommendations by sacrificing adequate play space for the over 50 children, sacrificing adequate parking for shelter residents and staff, sacrificing sunlight for neighboring residents, and sacrificing traffic flow by providing inadequate off-street delivery space. The city has denied local residents the opportunity to present superior alternatives. Options which would work better for both the homeless families and the surrounding community have been denied consideration.

The city's current plans are a disservice to the homeless families and the residents of this community. Please uphold the zoning regulations for this site and promote more thoughtful planning by the city.

Sincerely,



Signature

Shoaib Sargeant

Printed Name

2916 16th ST NE

Address