

December 18, 2017

Dear Board of Zoning Approval:

Our children are students at the Latin American Montessori Bilingual Public Charter School and we live in 16th Street Heights, at 1501 Webster St NW, within a few blocks of the Kingsbury building. We would like to ask for your support for LAMB's move to the Kingsbury building as a permanent home for our school. We believe that LAMB will be a wonderful asset to the neighborhood where we have lived for over 17 years and raised three children.

We realize there are some neighbors in our community who are vocally opposed to LAMB's move to Kingsbury. We want you to know that they do not represent the majority viewpoint in our community, which is overwhelmingly positive toward the addition to our neighborhood of the top ranked charter school in the city and the preservation of a beautiful and historic building for public use.

For fifteen years, LAMB has been the only public, accredited, dual-language immersion Montessori school in the DC metropolitan area and one of a handful nationwide. LAMB's education model has proven results, with consistent placement in the top tier of charter schools in the city. Year after year, LAMB has a waiting list of hundreds of families who hope their children have access to this high quality school. LAMB administration has worked to keep the school small, but also slowly grow to serve as many of the city's families as it can. We admire their commitment to this.

Out of necessity, LAMB has moved five times. Many public charter schools face this situation in this city. But with each move, LAMB is seeking to get a little bit closer to its dream of one campus for all of their students. Kingsbury offers so much for LAMB's students, with secure abundant exterior green space, off-street parking, and sufficient interior space to support the current school size and future growth to a maximum of 600 students (PK3-5th grade) by 2023. Therefore, we look forward to working with our community so that the enhancements to the Kingsbury property are mutually beneficially for both the community and our school.

We are heartened that the ANC recently voted 6-0-1 in support of LAMB's proposal for a process to eventually increase enrollment to 600 students. From the comments from ANC Commissioners, we believe they see that LAMB has worked to be good neighbors and address the concerns of neighbors.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Katherine Cain
Collin Cain
1501 Webster St NW
Washington, DC 20011