

Frederick L Hill, Chairman  
Board of Zoning Adjustment  
441 4<sup>th</sup> St NW, Ste 200S  
Washington DC, 20001

February 19, 2018

RE: BZA Case 19629/Request for Zoning Relief for Parking Garage at 1665 Harvard St NW  
Letter in opposition

Dear Sir,

We are owners of and residents at 1715 Harvard St NW, Washington DC, less than 200 feet from 1665 Harvard St. **We write in serious opposition to the applicant's plans in Case 19629**, for the following reasons:

(i) The proposed garage will reduce safety along the public pass through to Harvard street, thereby affecting all of those needing to pass through. It will impact adversely those without cars or elderly who would need to walk a long way to get to bus, groceries, banks, Rock Creek Park post office etc. It would impact those of use who use it to take advantage of the access to the zoo and walk across to the red line. Those walking alone would be adversely impacted. Taking away the public access or making it less safe due to a restriction of sightlines is unnecessary, since there is no compelling reason to build a garage - the space is already used as a parking pad.

(ii) Although the property address is 1665 Harvard, it sits along the "row" of parking pads behind 1701 Harvard and west (1703, 1705, etc). NONE of these parking pads have structures on them, and this would not only be inconsistent with the other homes, but would also create a serious difficulty for folks trying to park in their parking spots if garages start popping up along the back - the alley simply isn't wide enough to handle that sort of traffic.

(iii) The owner and applicant in this case attempted to build a similar garage on the same plot 10 years ago, and neighbors had the same concerns at that time. Although he says he is responding to neighbor concerns, we have an additional concern that he would try to convert the structure to a dwelling at a later date (since he started with a proposal for a 2 story dwelling with a roof deck). He's been completely unresponsive to neighbor concerns about trash building up on the site over the last 2-3 months, which has led to a rat infestation in the alley, where we all walk each day.

(iv) Moreover, there's no need for a parking garage - the owner already uses that area as a parking space. The rest of the homes along the row have parking pads, and we all park our cars without any issues.

Very respectfully,

Jessie Brown & Christopher Fanelli  
1715 Harvard Street NW