

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Susi Atkinson <1948susi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 20, 2021 5:04 PM  
**To:** DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Subject:** BZA Application No. 20472: The River School

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### Comments in Support

Dear Chairperson and/or Secretary of the BZA,

My husband, Roy S. Atkinson, and I are 73 year old grandparents of two children who attended The River School from age 2 years until they entered 4th grade. We live in an apartment at Cathedral Ave. NW and New Mexico Ave. NW. We pass by the intersection of Van Ness St. NW and Nebraska Ave. NW several times a week.

One cannot argue with residents who are wary and concerned about additional traffic. Having a school, no matter how wonderful, instead of one single family dwelling will result in greater traffic. And we all know change is difficult for some. My underlying question is ~ if it's not the wonderful River School in that location, what might be built there? Something will be. One also might consider just who is driving the cars that go to the River School. I know the answer to that question because my husband and I did so for years and I know many other parents and caretakers who did so, responsible, kind, careful drivers. That is an aspect that should be considered.

I feel compassionate and respectful of the neighbors of this location. I walk their streets often. It's a lovely, peaceful neighborhood. I have a very deep appreciation and affection for The River School which of course influences my strong opinion. Practically speaking, I believe that something will be built on that choice lot and I think that The River School is a wonderful addition to the neighborhood. Just wait until the neighbors see those adorable children parading down the quiet street in their Halloween costumes!

Most Sincerely,  
Susi Atkinson

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Board of Zoning Adjustment  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO.20472  
EXHIBIT NO.78