

Government of the District of Columbia


Department of Transportation



d. Planning and Sustainability Division

MEMORANDUM

TO: District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment

FROM: Anna Chamberlin, AICP
Associate Director 

DATE: July 9, 2021

SUBJECT: BZA Case No. 20478 – 4336 Alabama Avenue SE

APPLICATION

Taliza Bins Johnson (the “Applicant”), pursuant to Title 11 (2016 Zoning Regulations) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR), Subtitle X, Chapter 9, requests special exception from the retaining wall requirements of Subtitle C § 1401.3(c); pursuant to Subtitle C § 1402 and Subtitle X § 901.2 to construct a rear retaining wall to an existing, detached, principal dwelling unit. The site is located in the R-1-B Zone at 4336 Alabama Avenue SE (Square 5382, Lot 0132) and is served by a rear 15-foot public alley.

RECOMMENDATION

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has reviewed the application materials and has determined that the proposed action will not have adverse impacts on the District’s transportation network. DDOT has no objection to the approval of this application.

STREETScape AND PUBLIC REALM

DDOT’s lack of objection to this application should not be viewed as an approval of the public realm design. If any portion of this or future projects at the property propose elements within District owned right-of-way, the Applicant is required to pursue a public space permit through DDOT’s permitting process. It is noted that the site has a 15-foot Building Restriction Line (BRL) along Alabama Avenue SE. The area between the property line and BRL is regulated as if it is DDOT public space and should remain park-like in nature.

DDOT expects the adjacent public realm to meet all District standards. The Applicant should refer to Titles 11, 12A, and 24 of the [DCMR](#), the most recent version of DDOT’s [Design and Engineering Manual](#)

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(DEM), and the [Public Realm Design Manual](#) for public space regulations and design guidance. A permit application can be filed through the DDOT [Transportation Online Permitting System](#) (TOPS) website.

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