

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Bardin, Sara (DCOZ)
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 10:02 AM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: FW: BZA #20603 support the application

Sara

Sara Bardin
Director



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From: NICHOLAS DELLE DONNE <delledonne.n@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 7:02 PM
To: ATD DCOZ <dcoz@dc.gov>
Subject: BZA #20603 support the application

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To: Board of Zoning Adjustment
dcoz@dc.gov
Case: BZA #20603
Picasso Gallery at 1709 17th St., NW
Wednesday, February 2, 2022

I am a neighbor of Picasso Gallery at 1709 17th St., NW, the applicant in **BZA #20603** and I support the application to develop the property by extending the first floor of the building to the end of the lot, a case scheduled to be heard Wednesday, February 2, 2022.

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.20603
EXHIBIT NO.66

Abdollah Poozesh, the owner of Picasso Gallery wants to expand the building for workspace and storage to further the purposes of his business. Picasso has been in the community for decades and has contributed to the livable walkable neighborhood that makes this a desirable place to live. The small, family-owned business has been hit by the city's installation of the 17th St. Bike Plan which removed virtually all patron parking spaces nearby and puts patrons in jeopardy of parking tickets of \$150. Hampering the business further jeopardizes our unique community itself.

BZA considers the factors of air and light in making decisions on applications for development. Raymond Sava, the developer at 1641 R St., who opposes the Picasso application, alleges air and light for his building are adversely affected by Picasso's proposal, but, Mr. Sava has built his design at his own risk and does not have the permits that would allow what he has constructed. His objection should not be allowed to influence your decision.

While the Dupont Circle ANC2B passed a resolution opposing the application with 2 of 9 commissioners abstaining, in this case, its opposition is based on a misunderstanding of the criteria BZA uses to decide. During its deliberation, ANC commissioners justified their vote with reference to the need in DC for housing. The need for housing in DC is debatable. Certainly, luxury housing, such as the development at 1641, is questionable in a rich neighborhood like Dupont Circle. More importantly, the need for housing is not a criterion for BZA decisions. While air and light are appropriate criteria, in this case, the development at 1641 is at risk and is not authorized by a valid permit.

I ask that you approve the application.

Nick DelleDonne
Dupont East Civic Action Association
1622 Riggs Pl. NW
703 929 6656

Washington, DC joins Moms Demand Action to recognize National Gun Violence Survivors Week - Feb. 1-7, 2022. Read and share stories and experiences of survivors and community members at momentsthat survive.org and visit the [Gun Violence Memorial Project](#) at the National Building Museum . #GVSurvivorsWeek #BBDC