

From: [Bardin, Sara \(DCOZ\)](#)
To: [DCOZ - BZA Submissions \(DCOZ\)](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to Zoning Application Case 20603
Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 11:27:43 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Sara

Sara Bardin

Director



Office of Zoning | District of Columbia Government

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From: tommyasams@gmail.com <tommyasams@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 10:06 AM
To: ATD DCOZ <dcoz@dc.gov>
Cc: tommyASams@gmail.com
Subject: Opposition to Zoning Application Case 20603

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Dear Madam/Sir,

I am opposed to Picasso Gallery's application for an extension to the property located at 1709 17th Street, NW.

This extension will block air and light from the adjacent property located at 1641 R Street, whose permits for development were submitted by a small business developer Raymond Saba.

Mr. Saba is a property developer who purchased a long-time abandoned, run-down, old building on

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.20603
EXHIBIT NO.67

17th Street in a micro-neighborhood of Dupont Circle, to develop it for housing. This project has been moving along, albeit slowly due unfortunately to issues out of Mr. Saba's control, some due to the pandemic and others to burdensome bureaucracy. The owner of 1709 17th Street has now decided s/he needs storage space when it appears the top two floors of 1709 17th Street are vacant. Moreover, one has to question a need for additional storage when customers have to make appointments, suggesting business is not so thriving that s/he needs such storage. This also suggests a lack of transparency on the part of the owner of 1709 17th Street. Why would s/he, much less anyone, want to block air and light from an adjoining property?

My main objection is that the building extension to 1709 17th Street will unnecessarily block air and light from the adjacent property at 1641 R Street, which is currently being developed for housing. When completed, this property will be a much-needed improvement to this wonderful neighborhood which combines the best of urban life: residents, businesses, and a school.

I urge you to NOT approve Zoning Application Case 20603.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tommy A. Sams
1744 Riggs Place, NW
Washington, DC 20009
ANC2B

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