

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Tudor Downey <tudor@quercusllc.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 3:32 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: Reid, Robert (DCOZ)
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Hello

I was unable to make it to the most recent meeting regarding Dumbarton Oaks desire to change the scope of work for the project on R Street.

My name is Tudor Downey, I am the property manager for the owners of 3200 S Street. We have been greatly impacted by the current construction being done by Dumbarton Oaks. This is the second phase of the construction that they are doing over on this side of their property, and it is scheduled to last another year.

I can tell you whole heartedly and unequivocally that it has been a disaster from the start to today and I see no relief in sight.

Construction crew shows no respect for the surrounding property. They start eating smoking and yacking between 6-630 am. They come early to take up all the available parking. They threw half eaten food and half drunk containers of a variety of drinks in our trash cans when they were put out for service with no bags so guess who got to clean that up. They sit around and smoke and that wafts up into the home. They take up every single parking space on S Street and on 32nd Street including crowding or blocking our driveways. They park PODS directly in front of our property instead of in front of their property which I think is absurd. If you know you are going to be parking something for several days, why would you park it directly in front of a home that is not related to your project?

Due to the fact that they take up every available space for parking on both sides of the street it has made driving on S Street a serious problem because when two cars are on the street, they can't pass each other because the large vehicles leave no space. They close S Street whenever they want to without advising anyone ahead of time. They have turned away employees who work at our property as well as vendors when they did this. When I told David he said they had never closed S Street. There is no communication advising us of upcoming closures, parking large things in front of our home or courteous updates to the status of the project.

I contacted David Conine at the beginning of the first phase and expressed our concerns and discomfort. I will give him credit for getting them to stop putting trash in our empty cans and for stopping smoking right in front of the house. That is all I will give him credit for.

When phase one was completed, and they were about to start phase two I literally begged him to require the contractors to satellite park and be brought to the site. He claims that they did this, but the workers ignored it. I find this excuse lame. All you have to do is tell them if they park a personal vehicle, they will not work on the project any longer. There is one worker per car which is why there is absolutely no parking left on the daily basis. They do nothing to enforce this and sit back on the fact that it is a public street, and the workers can park there if they want to, and they can't stop them. They can in fact stop them from working on the project if they won't follow their guidelines. I have had vendors I have contacted to do work at our property leave because they could not find any parking.

This once quiet street that would have a handful of cars at the most parked on it has become an impassable mess since they started their projects. I asked for an update on the project because the owners were complaining about the level of noise and the parking and all he said is it is the same schedule that he gave me at the beginning of the project, which was a brief description of the work. No timeline or any indication of the level of activity.

They have made life on this once quiet street a hot mess with no end in sight. I could say more but this is long enough.

Good luck, proceed with caution you have no idea what problems their project will cause and once it starts there is nothing you can do about it. My employer has lived in this home for more than 50 years and has never experienced this level of discomfort.

