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Dear Secretary of the Board Zoning Appeals (“BZA”) overseeing case 21151,

I am writing as a concerned resident of the unit block of Bryant Street NW regarding the appeal related to case 21151. I’m steadfastly opposed to a restaurant being zoned on our residential street. I had previously believed this matter was decided upon; however, I’m learning through word of mouth of this hearing scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, 2025. Why is this hearing being held without any community outreach?

As a longtime resident of the street, I was pleased that the Sunbeam corner store was being revamped. This neighborhood is in a food desert and having a close neighborhood market for would be greatly appreciated. It was for that reason that the petitioner’s original request for a commercial zoning designation was approved by the neighborhood. I’m deeply concerned by the petitioner’s desire to change that commercial zoning to a restaurant for the following reasons:

- Existing parking constraints on an emergency route being made exponentially worse
- Increase in dangerous driving by scooters, commuters, and waiting Ubers. This block has seen horrific accidents from impatient drivers and that poor driving is spilling into the alley ways. I should be able to park on my street and not need to park three blocks over to unload groceries.
- The aggressive rat infestation on our block from the construction of McMillan Park (which we love!), adding a restaurant with food waste and dumpsters is going to exponentially make the rat problem worse.

I welcome the petitioner to fulfill their original plan of putting in a neighborhood market, should that no longer be feasible, I’d like to ask that the zoning be reverted to residential only. I do not want a commercial venture that does not serve the block on which it resides to be permitted.

Thank you for your consideration,

Anne Moore