
BZA 21151: Dinesh Tandon and Nidhi Tandon; Comments in Opposition

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To DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ) <DCOZ-BZASubmissions@dc.gov>

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We oppose the zoning of 2324 North Capitol St NW for restaurant purposes.

Applicants originally pitched a small grocery store with some carry out amenities. This concept was akin to the prior usage of the spot and local Residents were generally in favor. At some point, Applicants decided to petition for a full restaurant. This is a quiet and residential area, notwithstanding proximity to North Capitol Street. Applicants' request would severely impair parking, and the health and safety of the neighborhood.

Parking is a premium for the families and children who live here. We relish our community and the safe space we've created for each other. Rats, an issue all over, are controlled by us to the best of our ability as a neighborhood. Same with crime. However, traffic safety at the corner of Channing and NC remains concerning. To install a sit down full service restaurant (with DoorDash/Uber Eats options) is to inevitably invite illegal U-turns, wrong way traffic, double parking, late night patrons, drunk fights, drunk driving, and rats. This profile ruins the community we've created. The saddest part is how much we would have enjoyed the original concept proposed by applicants.

If applicants wish to open a restaurant, they should do so in the nearby commercial districts of Bloomingdale, not on the end of a quiet, one way street.

Lastly, the neighborhood was not appropriately advised of this hearing. This is frankly, a telling un-neighborly and inconsiderate act considering the invasion and inconvenience Applicants know many locals feel their restaurant concept to be. At a minimum, I would expect Applicants to try and court the locals into a compromise. Instead, they've waged war on social media, positioning those of us who live

here as unreasonable, and mincing some facts along the way. Not a great way to commence a relationship with those who might form your client base. It defies logic and only makes sense if they are confident that most of their revenue would come from outside the neighborhood (thereby underscoring the likelihood that their restaurant will have the adverse impact I've described).

Please decline the application.

Best,
Danielle