

FROM:
Jasmin Roohi & Phariborze Shavandy
Owners, 606 A St NE, Washington DC 20002

DATE: 12/10/2024

TO:
DC Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW Suite 200/210-S
Washington DC 20001

Re: Application No. 21163 of Kaely Michels-Gaultieri 627 A Street NE

We reside at 606 A St NE. We are writing to express our opposition to the request for special exception(s) sought by the owners of 627 A Street, NE. We live within 200 feet of the address.

Single-story garages are uniformly the pattern of the north side of the alley and all the residents benefit from the light and ventilation afforded by these modest structures. There are no 2-story garages on the north side of the alley that serves 627 A Street, NE. The height and footprint of the proposed 3-bedroom alley dwelling will have a significant detrimental effect on the light, ventilation and privacy of the flanking properties. The proposal to provide off-street parking in the space between the existing house and the newly proposed alley dwelling will eliminate the possibility of having any meaningful tree canopy on the property. This will add to the heat island effect and aggravate stormwater runoff concerns. The addition of the 3-bedroom dwelling with no net increase in parking will exacerbate the already challenging parking conditions.

I am aware of the need to add more housing in Washington DC. A studio apartment above the existing garage (within the existing footprint) would be a more reasonable request and would be possible within existing zoning laws, and without the need for exceptions. What has been proposed at 627 A Street, NE, is excessive and would set a terrible precedent.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jasmin Roohi and Phariborze Shavandy