



Government of the District of Columbia
**Advisory Neighborhood
Commission 6C**

September 23, 2024

Board of Zoning Adjustment
of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210-S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA 21163 (627 A St. NE)

Dear Members of the Board,

As the authorized representative of ANC 6C in this proceeding, I write to provide our views on the two matters scheduled for the Board's deliberations at its September 25 meeting.

Request for Party Status (Jessica Smith)

ANC 6C supports Ms. Smith's application for party status. As the owner-occupant of 625 A St. NE, which directly abuts the applicant's property, Ms. Smith has interests that "would likely be more significantly, distinctively, or uniquely affected in character or kind by the proposed zoning action than those of other persons in the general public." § Y-404.1(i)(5). Accordingly, we urge the Board to grant her request.

Requests for Adjournment of the Hearing

Ms. Smith (at Exhibit 39) and numerous other neighbors have asked the Board to postpone the hearing, currently set for October 9, to a later date.

ANC 6C takes no position on these requests. We credit the remarkably consistent claims of the neighbors that they did not receive the notice OZ mailed out on June 27. At the same time, we note our understanding that OZ mailed out a second round of PHNs in early September as a courtesy in response to these reports. As stated in our report on the merits of the application (Exhibit 61), "[o]ur understanding is that these were received days in advance of the ANC's September 11 meeting."

We further note, as stated in our merits report, that numerous neighbors offered comments on the application both at our September 4 zoning committee meeting and at the September 11 meeting of the ANC. On both occasions, speakers were afforded the opportunity to express their concerns at length, with no time limitations imposed.

The Chair and ANC also ensured that neighbors had access to the full case file on IZIS, to the knowledge of the Board of Zoning Adjustment of the District of Columbia, CASE NO.21163 EXHIBIT NO.62

that the hearing had been moved from October 2 (the original date) to October 9. All this information was conveyed to local residents by email from the Chair and in hyperlinks imbedded in the zoning committee's agenda and after-action report, both of which were timely posted on ANC 6C's website.

If the Board chooses to grant the requests for postponement, ANC 6C asks that the hearing be set for a date no earlier than November 6, as I will not be available to provide testimony on ANC 6C's behalf from October 16 through October 30.

Sincerely,


Mark Eckenwiler
Chair, ANC 6C