



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

August 22, 2024

D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment  
Frederick Hill, Chairperson  
441 4th Street NW, Suite 200S  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: 501 New York Avenue NW – Temporary Location for Central Cell Block

Dear Chairperson Hill and Members of the Board,

This letter is being submitted in support of the proposed temporary location for the Central Cell Block (“CCB”) at 501 New York Avenue, NW (the “Property”). The CCB plays an important role in the city’s criminal justice system by providing a secure location for detainees prior to arraignment in D.C. Superior Court. As part of CCB operations, the Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD”) works closely with the D.C. Department of Corrections (“DOC”) to transport detainees to the Daly Building at 300 Indiana Avenue, NW.

From discussions with our partners at DOC and the D.C. Department of General Services, we understand that the surrounding community has expressed concern with potential negative impacts created by in-take procedure at CCB. As with the Daly Building, MPD will work in collaboration with DOC to develop and implement a protocol for transporting detainees to the proposed temporary location for CCB at the Property. This protocol will include security measures and a method for coordination between MPD district stations and DOC as well as for staging of police vehicles when arriving at the Property. The goals of this protocol will be to provide for the safety of the community as well as the efficient transport of detainees with limited idling of police vehicles outside of the Property’s sallyport.

I appreciate the Board’s consideration of this matter and urge the Board to approve the subject application to allow for the temporary location of CCB at the Property.

Sincerely,

Pamela A. Smith  
Chief of Police