

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Matt Mosteller <mmostell410@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 10:11 AM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: Case 21177 District of Columbia Department of General Services - Written Opposition to Jail at 501 New York Ave NW

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Dear Chairman Hill and Board Members,

My name is Matthew Mosteller and along with my wife Margaret Mosteller reside at 1618 New Jersey Avenue NW. I urge the Board of Zoning Adjustment to deny the special exception relief sought by the District of Columbia Department of General Services for the proposed temporary relocation of the Central Cell Block to 501 New York Ave NW. The construction of the Central Cell Block, necessitating special exception relief, will detrimentally, adversely, and significantly impact the neighboring properties in direct violation of the Zoning Regulations and Maps.

The substantial increase in cells and detainees will lead to heightened traffic, noise, and security concerns.

Most notably, the facility's proximity to community organizations, social centers, and businesses that cater to children is extremely concerning. Such areas include, but are not limited to:

- Washington Convention Center
- Capitol Crossing (restaurants and shopping)
- City Vista (grocery stores and restaurants)
- Bambini Child Care Center
- New York Avenue Playground
- 7th and N Playground
- Bundy Sports Fields and Dog Park
- Numerous residences adjacent to the location of the proposed jail

In addition, my neighbors and I are concerned about disruptions from the facility's 24/7 operations due to six police forces transporting detainees to the facility; noise pollution from (potentially) over eighty detainees and supporting services; and increased traffic from police, employees, vendors, etc., leading to congestion, especially near the I-395 interchange with New York Avenue NW.

The proposed temporary relocation of the Central Cell Block to 501 New York Avenue, N.W., will have a direct, significant, and adverse effect on the residents, business owners, and community organizations nearby. This neighborhood has undergone transformation over decades from a state of neglect, characterized by parking lots and dilapidated houses, to a vibrant area with mixed-use residential developments. We are asking that this Project not be allowed to undo that progress and that DGS be directed to find a more appropriate and less impactful location.

Thank you for your consideration.

Matthew Mosteller and Margaret Mosteller
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