

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Jessica Sarriot <jsarriot@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 12:00 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: Keep The Aston Open: Families Are Counting on Us

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Dear Board of Zoning and Adjustments,

I'm Jessica Sarriot, a Ward 1 resident who works for a nonprofit, and someone currently helping a refugee family find housing. Every day, I see how the housing crisis pushes people to the edge. It's heartbreaking, and it's why I feel so strongly about keeping The Aston shelter open.

The Aston is unique—it's the only shelter in D.C. that accepts couples and adult families. That means it protects not just people's dignity but also their ability to stay together when they need each other most.

Shutting down The Aston now, in the middle of winter, would be devastating. It would force people back onto the streets when what they really need is stability and support. Families depending on this shelter would lose a lifeline, and all the work and resources that went into creating this safe space would go to waste.

Opponents have already had their chance to share concerns. It's time to move forward and make sure The Aston can operate at full capacity to serve the people who need it most.

I hope you'll stand with us and call on the Board of Zoning Adjustment to reject efforts to shut down The Aston. Let's make sure no one gets left out in the cold.

Thank you for caring,
Jessica Sarriot

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Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.21221
EXHIBIT NO.38