

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Jeremy Cohen <jeremytcohen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2025 11:10 AM  
**To:** DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Subject:** Comment to the board in support of The Aston Shelter

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To the Board of Zoning Adjustment,

I am writing to express my strong support for The Aston Shelter and to urge you to allow it to continue operating at full capacity. Shutting down this vital shelter would have devastating consequences on needy residents—especially in the middle of winter, when it's most important to provide safe housing.

The Aston provides a rare and inclusive option by welcoming couples and adult families, a critical step forward in protecting the dignity of those experiencing homelessness. Families shouldn't have to be separated just to access shelter. The city should be proud to lead with this compassionate approach.

Opponents had ample time to raise their concerns during the planning process, but now their actions risk throwing people back onto the streets, wasting resources, and undermining progress toward addressing homelessness in our city. We cannot allow this to set a precedent for other shelters facing similar pushback.

I urge the board to reject these complaints and ensure the Aston Shelter remains open, providing the services that so many depend on.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Jeremy Cohen  
Ward 6 Resident

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