

January 30, 2025

via IZIS

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

Re: Letter in Support of BZA Case No. 21254– 1355-1359 H Street, NE

Dear Chairperson Hill and Members of the Board,

My name is Norman Smith, and I lease space in the property at 1341 H Street, NE, near 1355-1359 H Street, NE. I am aware of the owner's plans for 1355-1359 Street NE to convert the buildings into a diverse mix of commercial uses, including retail, food stalls, fitness space, bars, and an event deck, and I support the owner's vision. The property includes a mix of lots—some facing the street and others in the alley—and the plan doesn't involve expanding or changing the existing buildings. Instead, they'll be repurposed to create a space with a number of commercial spaces offering a mix of food and retail options which will enhance the vibrancy of the immediate area.

This project fits well with the neighborhood, which has existing commercial activity. It's close to public transportation, including the Streetcar and several bus lines. There are also residential properties in the surrounding blocks, making it super convenient for visitors and neighbors alike. I think the market will add something new and exciting to the area, giving neighbors and visitors more food and shopping choices all in one spot.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this project. I fully support it and look forward to the completed project.

Sincerely,

Norman K. Smith, AIA, LEED AP