

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT



BZA Application No. 21313
Anahita Mehrani and Siavash Koohmaraie
30 W Street, N.W. (Square 3118, Lot 70)

HEARING DATE: July 2, 2025
DECISION DATE: July 2, 2025

SUMMARY ORDER

RELIEF REQUESTED. The application requests the following relief in order to construct a third-floor addition with roof deck and a three-story with cellar rear addition, to an existing two-story attached principal dwelling, and to raze the existing one-story accessory building (garage) and construct a two-story accessory building for use as a garage and a studio, in the rear yard in the RF-1 zone:

- Special Exception from the parking space access location requirements of Subtitle C § 711.7, pursuant to Subtitle C § 711.11 and Subtitle X § 901.2 (*12 foot setback from the alley centerline required; 10 foot setback from the alley centerline proposed*)
- Special Exception under the rear addition requirements of Subtitle E § 207.5, pursuant to Subtitle X § 901.2 (*10 feet maximum permitted; 15 feet proposed*)
- Special Exception from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 210.1, pursuant to Subtitle E § 5201 and Subtitle X § 901.2 (*60% maximum permitted; 31% existing; 67.9% proposed*)

The zoning relief requested in this case was self-certified. (Exhibit 4.)

PARTIES.¹ The parties to this case were the Applicant and Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC") 5E, the "affected ANC" pursuant to Subtitle Y §§ 101.8 and 403.5(b) of the Zoning Regulations (Title 11 of the DCMR, Zoning Regulations of 2016, to which all references are made unless otherwise specified).

NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC HEARING. The Board of Zoning Adjustment (the "Board") referred the application to the appropriate agencies and provided proper and timely notice of the public hearing in accordance with Subtitle Y § 402.1.

¹ A request for party status in opposition from Cynthia and Ilir Salihi was withdrawn prior to the public hearing following an agreement with the Applicant. (Exhibit 31.)

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ANC REPORT. The ANC's report indicated that at a regularly scheduled, properly noticed public meeting on May 20, 2025, at which a quorum was present, the ANC voted to support the application. (Exhibit 18.) The ANC report raised no issues or concerns.

OFFICE OF PLANNING (“OP”) REPORT. OP submitted a report recommending approval of the application. (Exhibit 23.)

DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (“DDOT”) REPORT. DDOT submitted a report indicating that it had no objection to the application because it concluded that the relief would not result in any adverse impacts to the District's transportation network. (Exhibit 19.)

PERSONS IN OPPOSITION. The Board received two letters from neighbors in opposition to the application. (Exhibits 20, 27.)²

CONCLUSIONS

Pursuant to Subtitle Y § 604.3, the order of the Board may be in summary form where granting an application when there was no party in opposition. As a summary order, it does not constitute binding legal precedent on the Board and shall not be considered by the Board in evaluating future applications.

Based upon the record before the Board, and having given great weight to the appropriate reports and recommendations filed in this case, the Board concludes that the Applicant has met the burden of proof that the requested special exception relief can be granted because:

- It is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations and Map;
- It will not tend to affect adversely the use of neighboring property; and
- Pursuant to Subtitle X § 901.2(c), the relief satisfies the specified conditions for special exception relief.

DECISION

Based on the case record and the testimony at the hearing, the Board concludes that the applicant has satisfied the burden of proof for the requested relief:

- Special Exception from the parking space access location requirements of Subtitle C § 711.7, pursuant to Subtitle C § 711.11 and Subtitle X § 901.2 (*12 foot setback from the alley centerline required; 10 foot setback from the alley centerline proposed*)
- Special Exception under the rear addition requirements of Subtitle E § 207.5, pursuant to Subtitle X § 901.2 (*10 feet maximum permitted; 15 feet proposed*)

² One letter in opposition was from the adjacent neighbors, Cynthia and Ilir Salihi, who came to an agreement with the Applicant prior to the public hearing. (Exhibit 31.)

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- Special Exception from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 210.1, pursuant to Subtitle E § 5201 and Subtitle X § 901.2 (*60% maximum permitted; 31% existing; 67.9% proposed*)

Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the application is **GRANTED** consistent with the plans shown in Exhibit 30A of the record, as required under Subtitle Y §§ 604.9 and 604.10.

VOTE: 4-0-1 (Frederick L. Hill, Carl H. Blake, Chrishaun S. Smith, and Robert E. Miller to APPROVE; one Board seat vacant)

BY ORDER OF THE D.C. BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

A majority of the Board members approved the issuance of this order.

ATTESTED BY:


SARA A. HARDIN
Director, Office of Zoning

FINAL DATE OF ORDER: July 10, 2025

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR SUBTITLE Y § 604.11, NO ORDER OF THE BOARD SHALL TAKE EFFECT UNTIL TEN (10) DAYS AFTER IT BECOMES FINAL PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE Y § 604.7.

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR SUBTITLE Y § 702.1, THIS ORDER SHALL NOT BE VALID FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS, UNLESS, WITHIN SUCH TWO-YEAR PERIOD, AN APPLICATION FOR A BUILDING PERMIT FOR THE ERECTION OR ALTERATION APPROVED IS FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING A BUILDING PERMIT, OR A REQUEST FOR A TIME EXTENSION PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE Y § 705 IS FILED PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND THE REQUEST IS GRANTED. PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE Y § 703.14, NO OTHER ACTION, INCLUDING THE FILING OR GRANTING OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE Y §§ 703 OR 704, SHALL TOLL OR EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD.

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR SUBTITLE Y § 604, APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE APPROVAL OF THE PLANS SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE (OR ADDITION THERETO) OR THE RENOVATION OR ALTERATION OF AN EXISTING BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. AN APPLICANT SHALL CARRY OUT THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, OR ALTERATION ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLANS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

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AS THE SAME MAY BE AMENDED AND/OR MODIFIED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE D.C. HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 1977, AS AMENDED, D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 2-1401.01 ET SEQ. (ACT), THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED: RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, AGE, MARITAL STATUS, PERSONAL APPEARANCE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, FAMILIAL STATUS, FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES, MATRICULATION, POLITICAL AFFILIATION, GENETIC INFORMATION, DISABILITY, SOURCE OF INCOME, OR PLACE OF RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS. SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS A FORM OF SEX DISCRIMINATION WHICH IS PROHIBITED BY THE ACT. IN ADDITION, HARASSMENT BASED ON ANY OF THE ABOVE PROTECTED CATEGORIES IS PROHIBITED BY THE ACT. DISCRIMINATION IN VIOLATION OF THE ACT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. VIOLATORS WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.