

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Callis, Sherrika L <sherrika.l.callis@verizon.com>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 6:49 AM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: tips@nbcuni.com; fox5dc@fox.com
Subject: Case #21345. - Comments in Opposition to Swing Space for Whittier Elementary School

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Good Morning,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the closure of the park space near 3rd and Sheridan St NW. I reside a block away and have been a lifelong resident of this neighborhood, having attended Whittier Elementary School.

This past weekend, I was surprised to find the park closed off with fencing and no accompanying signage explaining the reason. Through my neighborhood group chat, I learned that this space is intended to serve as a swing space for Whittier Elementary for several years.

I am completely against the park being closed for this purpose. The community, especially the direct neighbors, was not notified or consulted about this plan. While I understand that parents of Whittier students may have advocated for this, there was no outreach to discuss this idea with the surrounding community. I believe that students at Whittier should be placed in another neighboring school rather than occupying valuable green space that is enjoyed by everyone through the construction of temporary modules.

I am particularly dismayed that Lewis Ferebee, Chancellor of DC Public Schools, and Whittier's PTO proceeded with this plan without considering the impact on the surrounding community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

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Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 21345
EXHIBIT NO. 23