



Ileana Schinder <ile@ileanaschinder.com>

Re: Request to present at ANC meeting

1 message

Ileana Schinder <ile@ileanaschinder.com>

Thu, Sep 25, 2025 at 9:34 AM

To: "ANC 5A Office (ANC 5A)" <5A@anc.dc.gov>

Cc: Nadege Fuller <nf@ileanaschinder.com>, "Thomas, Timothy (SMD 5A02)" <5A02@anc.dc.gov>, Bernard Guzman <bguz824@gmail.com>, Shannon Grevious <sggrev@gmail.com>

Dear Emily,

Thank you for following up with our request to be placed in the ANC agenda to allow us to present the project to the neighborhood. I remain disappointed that Mr Thomas remains a barrier for my client's opportunity to present. His precondition to meet after hours in a dark alley exceeds our ability to discuss this project.

Due to safety and disability reasons, I am not able to meet him in that place under those conditions. Instead, I remain open to explain our project in the following ways:

1. Since the documents regarding this project are publicly available via the BZA website, he can look them up and send us a list of questions and comments directly to us to be answered in writing.
2. If he does not feel comfortable reading the drawings and the documents submitted to BZA, we welcome a zoom meeting in which we will navigate all the relevant information that will allow him to verbally issue questions and comments. We'll respond to those verbally and then issue a memo to Mr Thomas and BZA.
3. If he decides to NOT allow us to present to the ANC because we can't meet his pre-conditions, we respectfully request he issues his opinion of this project in writing to the BZA to be included in the record.

Most importantly, I want to make clear our desire to present to an open ANC meeting and Mr Thomas' refusal to give us the time unless we meet some conditions that we are unable to meet.

Also, I want to share that all communications regarding our difficulties to present to the ANC are being shared with the BZA at this time and will be part of the record.

We appreciate your time on this matter and please let us know if you have time available for the upcoming ANC meeting.

We only need 5 minutes to show the project.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,

ileana

On Wed, Sep 24, 2025 at 5:03 PM ANC 5A Office (ANC 5A) <5A@anc.dc.gov> wrote:

Thank you.

I have spoken to Commissioner Thomas.

As this is his Single Member District, you must work with him. It is his desire to meet in person. As is the nature of this work, each Commissioner has their own way of doing things. Our meetings are in person as well.

Since the desire is to have neighbors there, you would have to meet at a time when people are home from work. Therefore, I would suggest that you reach out to Commissioner Thomas again to try to find a reasonable compromise when the neighbors can be included in the meeting.

Emily

From: Ileana Schinder <ile@ileanaschinder.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 10:24 AM

To: ANC 5A Office (ANC 5A) <5A@anc.dc.gov>

Cc: Nadege Fuller <nf@ileanaschinder.com>; Thomas, Timothy (SMD 5A02) <5A02@anc.dc.gov>; Bernard Guzman <bguz824@gmail.com>; Shannon Grevious <sggrev@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Request to present at ANC meeting

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CASE NO. 21364
EXHIBIT NO. 43

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hi Emily,

How are you? Thank you for following up. We made several requests to be put in the ANC Agenda as early as a month ago. That request has not been fulfilled yet. We are happy to be put in the October agenda if there is no slot available for September. Our presentation will take 4 minutes and then we can allow for questions, if required.

Mr Thomas requested that we meet after hours in the alley. The timing does not work for us due to personal issues, I offered to meet online at any date and time he would see fit. He refused. I also find the location unsafe and un conducive to share project-specific information such as drawings and photos. I repeat, i'm happy to meet Mr Thomas at any date and time online if this is a prerequisite to put in the agenda. I didn't know that the ANC can prevent a neighbor from presenting at a meeting if they are unable to meet individually in person on site with an ANC representative. If this is the case, I just want to express that we remain open to show this project with transparency for all neighbors to state their opinion before or during the BZA hearing.

Looking forward to getting the chance to present soon,

ileana

On Wed, Sep 24, 2025 at 9:43 AM ANC 5A Office (ANC 5A) <5A@anc.dc.gov> wrote:

Good morning.

I am very sorry that you have not been able to work things out with Commissioner Thomas. When I spoke with him last, it sounded as though he had put forth several suggestions for a meeting. Can you please share with me why his suggestions were not viable?

Unfortunately, we are not able to get you on the agenda for our September meeting. It is honestly too packed as it is. I would suggest that you ask for an extension and that you find a way to meet with the neighbors. That is critically important. They need to be involved in the process.

We are certainly not trying to hold your project up. However, as a community, we do value the input from our residents.

Emily

From: Ileana Schinder <ile@ileanaschinder.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 9:55 AM

To: ANC 5A Office (ANC 5A) <5A@anc.dc.gov>

Cc: Nadege Fuller <nf@ileanaschinder.com>; Thomas, Timothy (SMD 5A02) <5A02@anc.dc.gov>; Bernard Guzman <bguz824@gmail.com>; Shannon Grevious <sggrev@gmail.com>

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Hi Emily,

how are you? Thank you for following up. Despite our best efforts we've been unable to meet Mr Thomas conditions for a pre-ANC meeting. For this reason, I request we are allowed to be included in the ANC agenda without the precondition of meeting individually with Mr Thomas. During several phone calls, he has expressed demands are unreasonable for a project of this type and scale.

Please let me know if this is possible and I'm happy to add it to my schedule.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,

ileana

On Mon, Sep 22, 2025 at 8:04 PM ANC 5A Office (ANC 5A) <5A@anc.dc.gov> wrote:

Good evening.

Thank you for your email. Please work with Commissioner Thomas to discuss the project with residents within 5A02. After you meet with them, we can schedule a time for you to present at the ANC meeting. Our next available date will be October 22nd.

Thank

Emily

From: Nadege Fuller <nf@ileanaschinder.com>

Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 12:28 PM

To: Thomas, Timothy (SMD 5A02) <5A02@anc.dc.gov>; ANC 5A Office (ANC 5A) <5A@anc.dc.gov>

Cc: Ileana Schinder <ile@ileanaschinder.com>; Bernard Guzman <bguz824@gmail.com>; Shannon

Grevious <sggrev@gmail.com>

Subject: Request to present at ANC meeting

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Good Afternoon Mr Thomas,

I am writing on behalf of our clients, Bernard & Shannon Guzman, at 4826 Eastern Ave NE. They have retained our services to design an accessory structure that will receive an ADU at the rear of their property.

The Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA) has requested we process an exemption due to noncompliance of the existing side setbacks of the principal structure. As part of this process, we are reaching out to the ANC to request presenting the project to the community during your upcoming meeting. If you are able to include our request into the agenda for 09/24/2025 or 09/25/2025, that would be greatly appreciated. Otherwise, we are open to present at your earliest availability.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon
All the best,

ARQ

nadege fuller

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