

Government of the District of Columbia

Department of Transportation



d. Planning and Sustainability Division

MEMORANDUM

TO: District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment

FROM: Meredith Soniat
Associate Director *MS*

DATE: June 3, 2026

SUBJECT: BZA Case No. 21434 – 314 Delafield Place NW

APPLICATION

Maria Del Carmen Cabieses (the “Applicant”), pursuant to Title 11 of the *District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR)*, requests a Special Exception from the minimum vehicle parking requirements of Subtitle C § 701.5, the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle F § 210.1, and the new residential development standards of Subtitle U § 412, in addition to an Area Variance from the maximum permitted floor area ratio requirements of Subtitle F § 201.1, to construct a two-story plus basement rear addition and increase the number of dwelling units from 4 to 6 units in a two-story plus basement apartment house. The site is in the RA-1 Zone at 314 Delafield Place NW (Square 3304, Lot 59) and is served by a 16-foot public alley.

SUMMARY OF DDOT REVIEW

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is committed to achieving an exceptional quality of life by encouraging sustainable travel practices, safer streets, and outstanding access to goods and services. To achieve this vision, DDOT works through the zoning process to ensure that impacts from new developments are manageable within and take advantage of the District’s multi-modal transportation network and, as necessary, propose mitigations that are commensurate with the action. After a review of the case materials submitted by the Applicant, DDOT finds:

- Zoning requires one (1) off-street vehicle parking space. The Applicant is seeking relief from one (1) space;
- The site is located within 1 mile of the Fort Totten Metrorail Station and the Georgia Avenue-Petworth Metrorail Station;
- Title 11 of the *DCMR*, Subtitle C § 703.4 only requires the Applicant implement a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plan if requesting relief from more than four (4) parking spaces.

DDOT also requires a TDM plan for parking relief cases if the total number of residential units is 20 or more. Therefore, a TDM Plan is not required in this case; and

- DDOT supports the requested relief given the site's proximity to transit and the walkability of the neighborhood. The impacts on the transportation network are expected to be minimal.

RECOMMENDATION

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has reviewed the application materials and has determined that the proposed action will not have adverse impacts on the District's transportation network. DDOT has no objection to the approval of the requested relief.

TRANSPORTATION ANALYSIS

Vehicle Parking

The overall parking demand created by the development is primarily a function of land use, development square footage, price, and supply of parking spaces. However, in urban areas, other factors contribute to the demand for parking, such as the availability of high-quality transit, frequency of transit service, proximity to transit, connectivity of bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the vicinity of the development, demographic composition, and other characteristics.

The Applicant is required by Zoning to provide one (1) off-street parking space. The Applicant is providing no off-street parking spaces and is requesting relief from the one (1) space. DDOT has no objection to the requested relief. Title 11 of the DCMR, Subtitle C § 703.4 requires that any request for a reduction in the minimum number of parking spaces over four (4) spaces include a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) plan be approved by DDOT. Since the relief requested is fewer than four (4) spaces a TDM Plan is not required by Zoning, and since the total number of residential units is fewer than 20, DDOT does not request a TDM plan as a condition of approval.

Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Pass Eligibility

The site is located on the 300 block of Delafield Place NW, which is not currently in the DDOT and Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Residential Permit Parking (RPP) [database](#). As such, residents on site are not eligible to obtain Zone 4 parking permits from the DMV. However, it is noted that Delafield Place and nearby streets of Decatur Street, 3rd Street, and 4th Street are currently unrestricted on both sides.

Loading

DDOT's practice is to accommodate loading operations safely and efficiently, while prioritizing pedestrian and bicycle safety and limiting negative impacts to traffic operations. For new developments, DDOT requires that loading take place in private space and that no back-up maneuvers occur in the public realm. Access to this building for loading and unloading, delivery and trash pick-up is an important consideration, and DDOT expects the Applicant to comply with DDOT's standards for loading.

Per Title 11 of the DCMR, Subtitle C § 901.1, buildings with fewer than 50 units are not required to provide a loading berth. As such, future residents should use the rear of the property for move-ins and move-outs or obtain "emergency no parking" signs from DDOT to reserve an on-street parking space. Since the site has more than three (3) units, the Applicant must contract a private trash collection service. Trash must be stored entirely on private property, out of the view of the sidewalk, and collected at the rear of the property.

STREETSCAPE AND PUBLIC REALM

DDOT's lack of objection to this application should not be viewed as an approval of the public realm. If any portion of this or future projects at the property propose elements within District-owned right-of-way or the building restriction area, the Applicant is required to pursue a public space construction permit. It is noted that the site has a 5-foot Building Restriction Line (BRL) along the Delafield Place NW frontage. The area between the property line and BRL is the building restriction area, which is regulated like DDOT public space and should remain "park-like" with landscaping.

DDOT expects the adjacent public realm to meet all District standards. The Applicant should refer to Titles 11, 12A, and 24 of the [DCMR](#), the most recent version of DDOT's [Design and Engineering Manual](#), and the [Public Realm Design Manual](#) for public space regulations and design guidance. A permit application can be filed through the DDOT [Transportation Online Permitting System](#) (TOPS) website.

HERITAGE AND SPECIAL TREES

According to the District's [Tree Size Estimator map](#), the property has one (1) Heritage tree and one (1) Special tree. DDOT expects the Applicant to coordinate with the Ward 4 Arborist regarding the preservation and protection of existing Heritage, Special, and small street trees.

Heritage Trees have a circumference of 100 inches or more and are protected by the Tree Canopy Protection Amendment Act of 2016. With approval by the Mayor and DDOT's Urban Forestry Division (UFD), Heritage Trees might be permitted to be relocated. As such, the Applicant may be required to redesign the site plan to preserve the Non-Hazardous Heritage Trees. Special Trees are between 44 inches and 99.99 inches in circumference. Special Trees may be removed with a permit. However, if a Special Tree is designated to remain by UFD, a Tree Protection Plan (TPP) will be required.

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