
Letter in support of BZA 21439 (1908 Irving St NE)

From Rory O'Sullivan <roryfosullivan@gmail.com>

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To DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ) <DCOZ-BZASubmissions@dc.gov>

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Chairperson Pourciau and members of the Board:

I am writing in support of BZA Case No. 21439 for the proposed residential development at 1908 Irving Street NE. I serve on the Development, Zoning, and Land Use (DZLU) Committee of ANC 5B, and in that capacity I have had the opportunity to review this case closely and to follow the applicant's engagement with our community throughout the process. I write here in my individual capacity.

Brookland and our surrounding neighborhoods continue to add large numbers of studio and one-bedroom apartments, while larger homes suitable for families remain comparatively scarce — and increasingly out of reach. The few large, family-sized houses that do come on the market here have regularly sold well into seven figures, and neighborhood home values have risen substantially over the past decade. This project responds directly to that gap. It would deliver eight large, family-sized homes — five- and six-bedroom units of a kind our neighborhood badly needs and rarely sees in new construction.

I was also struck by the applicant's good-faith engagement: in response to concerns raised by the DZLU and the ANC 5B, the applicant revised the project, and ANC 5B voted to support it subject to conditions.

A healthy, inclusive neighborhood is one with room for families of all sizes and backgrounds. Adding family-sized housing helps keep Brookland diverse, welcoming, and within reach for the households who make our community what it is.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Board to approve the requested relief so that these eight family-sized homes can be built.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rory O'Sullivan
1254 Hamlin St NE

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 21439
EXHIBIT NO. 39

Member, DZLU Committee, ANC 5B