

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 *MS*
Associate Director

DATE: May 18, 2026

SUBJECT: BZA Case No. 21444 – 3215 Rowland Place NW

APPLICATION

Gordon Seagrave (the “Applicant”), pursuant to Title 11 of the *District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR)*, requests a Special Exception from the new alley record lot requirements of Subtitle C § 306.4 and a Special Exception from the alley lot development standards of Subtitle D § 5100.1(c) and (d), to construct a new, detached, one-story accessory garage. The site is an alley tax lot in the R-2 Zone at 3215 Rowland Place NW (Square 2062, Lot 809) and is served by a 16-foot public alley.

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.

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 the Applicant is required to pursue a public space construction permit.

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 primary property at 3215 Rowland Place NW has three (3) Heritage and four (4) Special trees. DDOT expects the Applicant to coordinate with the Ward 3 Arborist regarding the preservation and protection of existing Heritage, Special, 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.

MS:ms