

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Olivia Sparer <osparer@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 6, 2018 12:49 PM
To: DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ); Schellin, Sharon (DCOZ)
Subject: Case # 02-38I (4th & M SW)

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I understand there will be another public hearing on May 10. I would like to submit the following to the record. My apologies for another e-mail; I have fixed the formatting of the paragraphs below. Please use this version for my submission:

Case # 02-38I (4th & M SW)

Dear Zoning Commission,

I am writing to submit my comments in support of retaining the parcels/lots at 4th and M Streets SW as central community space. This location is effectively our "town square," where people cross paths as they shop for groceries, enter and exit the Metro, and make their way to activities nearby at the Wharf and Nationals Park.

I have lived in SW since 2010 and own my property in Capitol Park IV. Part of why I moved to SW is that it is quiet and so much less crowded than other nearby/central residential areas in the city. It has green space with mature trees and a landscape that is not dominated by large structures. It has fewer high-rise buildings and greater resident diversity. Many of my neighbors have lived in SW for decades. I appreciate the recent (openings of restaurants) and upcoming (SW library) neighborhood enhancements but am greatly concerned about the number, height, and density of additional, large residential and commercial buildings. The Friday night SW market with music and art, DC "state" fair, Saturday morning farmers market, and other events have been well-attended and are appreciated by residents and visitors. The activities we are able to host in this space and its proximity to public transit and other attractive, complementary features (Arena Stage and the Wharf) make our "town square" a destination in itself and an asset to be protected.

Open space -- where community members can socialize, purchase locally-grown food and other goods, enjoy the outdoors and music/entertainment, and get to know their neighbors -- such open space adds great value and facilitates community identity, connection, well-being, and resilience. I strongly support the comments that will be provided to you by Mr. Coy McKinney and hope you will consider the points that he makes.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful attention to this matter.

Olivia Sparer