

**Zoning Commission Testimony of Enid A. Jackson
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) Commissioner for
5A09 Single Member District**

Thursday, March 31, 2005

Good Afternoon,

Zoning Commissioners, other ANC Commissioners, fellow citizens of the District and distinguished guests.

My name is Enid A. Jackson. I am Ward 5, ANC Single Member District 5A09 Commissioner.

I have been a resident of the Ward Five community for over three years.

I am here today to testify regarding the proposed text amendment to DCMR 11, designating Adult Development Centers as a *Use Permitted by Special Exception or as a Matter of Right*.

It is my opinion, and the opinion of many of my constituents, that this proposed text amendment, as currently worded, is wrong and not in the best interests of our community.

Several prevailing questions regarding this amendment must be answered to my satisfaction before it can merit my support.

Question #1. What are the governing policies and procedures for the operation of an Adult Development Center or ADC? (a written copy of such rules would be greatly appreciated) and or **Why is it so hard for ANC Commissioners to obtain information on ADCs?**

Question #2. Why is information on the current number of Child and Senior Development Centers located per ward, throughout the city, so difficult to obtain?

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Question #3. Does the proposed amendment have a location within a particular radius of another ADC limitation (for example 100, 200, 500 ft.)? If not, why not?

Question #4. Why did the Zoning Commission not follow the Office of Corporation Counsel's suggestion that it (the Zoning Commission) "may wish to define the term *elderly*, in order to avoid misinterpretations?

Closing Comments:

- I believe that the number of adults covered by this amendment should be limited, based on the physical limitations of the Adult Development Center; but should not be open-ended, as is the case in the proposed amendment's current wording.
- The proposed text amendment needs further study and review before it should be seriously considered for passage.
- There needs to be written assurances in place that guarantee that the placement of these Adult Development Centers is fairly and equally dispersed throughout all 8 wards of the city, with provisions made for adequate monitoring checks and balances, to ensure that these ADC's operate in full compliance with District zoning and other laws.
- The Zoning regulations should be amended to include a "no sleep over" provision; so ADC operators can not get around the "who are present for less than twenty-four hours per day" language by shuttling clients off the premises for an hour or so during the day.
- The current C-2-A (Commercial zoning restriction) zoning district restriction should be maintained for ADCs.
- An official assessment of the potential traffic and parking impacts of ADCs in proposed residential target areas should be done, before acting on this proposed amendment. Simply saying it would be the same as with child or elderly development centers is not good enough.

Thank you Commissioners for providing me with the opportunity to share with you the viewpoints of the citizens and residents of Ward 5, Single

Member Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 5A09 on this very important and potentially troubling issue.

We hope and trust that you will give serious consideration to our concerns regarding this amendment in your deliberations.

Thank you very much.