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for a very long time our small quiet neighborhood of has been taken for granted, starved of services and resources from the city, neglected by politicians, and disrespected by developers

Yet through it all, we've remained a stable place of small single family homes, where families have lived lives literally for generations.

Some of my neighbors have been in their homes for fifty years and more. Neighborhood kids who played together as children have grown up to become grandparents and have continued as neighbors and friends

Newcomers, grandmothers, and their children's children share flowers from their gardens, watch after each others houses, and shovel each others sidewalks in winter.

The community's welcoming spirit has been found by like minded newcomers. It's not a place that has attracted yuppies looking to make a quick buck – speculators selfishly properties have largely avoided us..

We're a working middle class oasis of small 2 story homes with large yards and small gardens, It's a place where nearly every family's savings and main financial asset is their house.

And our houses are in every respect our homes -- many of us have either lived here for generations -- sometimes for fifty years or more -- or we have 30 year mortgages and are rooted and committed to this neighborhood.

Our request to down zone parts of Hamilton, Ingraham, and Jefferson Streets back to their original residential classification is an expression of our desire to maintain our community as it has been – a place of small working class home owners, who are mutually interdependent upon one another.

If the old commercial zoning classification as applied to these residential side streets is left unchanged, large scale development incompatible with the small scale nature of our neighborhood will inevitably flow, overwhelming us.

ZONING COMMISSION
CASE No. 06-07
District of Columbia
EXHIBIT No. 06-07
EXHIBIT NO.17

Please preserve our community as it has been, and focus development where it was intended to go – on Georgia Avenue. Please grant us this request to have the zoning that applies to these side streets reverted to a residential classification.

Please make permanent our requested change in the zoning effecting Hamilton Street (south of the Ingraham Street alley) to R1b -- and Ingraham and Jefferson Streets (north of that boundary) to be zoned as R3, the appropriate residential row house classification.