



United States Department of State

Office of Foreign Missions  
Washington, D.C. 20520

March 6, 2015

REF 15-143

Anthony J. Hood  
Chairman, Zoning Commission

VIA E-MAIL

Dear Mr. Hood:

The Department of State respectfully requests that the Zoning Commission (ZC) reopen the record in case number 08-06A in order to accept the attached comments from the Department of State into the record. The attached letter weighs in on the discussions between the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) and the District of Columbia Office of Planning (OP), which were directed by the ZC, and which significantly impact our international obligations and operations.

Given that OP's March 4 report concludes with a declaration that it "will continue to work with NCPC and the State Department as they provide additional comments," the Department wishes to note that this would be an ideal opportunity for us to provide comments directly to the ZC so that the ZC can be fully informed as to the implications of the draft text. In particular, it is important that the Department have an opportunity to refute OP's claim in its report that OP's draft text "mirrors the procedural approach submitted by the Department of State." We wish to avoid any inference that these references suggest that we have been actively involved in conversations with OP or that we have an agreement on this approach. In fact, OP has refused to meet with the Department despite our desire and willingness to do so.

In the same spirit of the ZC's composition of both Federal and District representatives, I thank you for your consideration of this request from the Department, a key Federal partner. I will be in attendance at the March 9 meeting and would welcome the opportunity to address questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cliff Seagroves", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Cliff Seagroves  
Director (Acting)

Enclosure: Comment letter