

September 3, 2015

Maxime Devilliers
1148 4th Street NE
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Anthony Hood
Chairman
DC Zoning Commission
One Judiciary Square
441 4th Street NW, Suite 200 South
Washington, DC 20001

Re: ZRR Case No. 08-06A

Dear Chairman Hood and DC Zoning Commission:

I wish to voice my support for modernizing the DC zoning code. I urge you to update to the DC zoning regulations to reduce parking requirements near transit, permit accessory apartments in low density residential neighborhoods, and allow corner stores. These are modest changes that will help to reverse issues stemming from 1950's suburban planning in our city, promote affordable housing, and facilitate walkable neighborhoods. I urge you not to delay in finalizing these long overdue proposals. We need these reforms urgently to respond to the city's continued growth and rising demand for more affordable housing and better transportation choices.

In particular, I support the parking reforms in Subtitle C, which significantly reduce parking requirements near transit, including bus priority corridors. I also support the provisions to allow an accessory apartments in residential zones and corner stores, as described in Subtitle U. Although I wish provisions regarding corner stores recognized the historic character of neighborhoods that had corner and non-corner stores mixed among row houses, the proposed change will at least open the door to new businesses.

These three critical changes will help create a more sustainable, walkable, and inclusive city. I urge you to move forward with this long-awaited update.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Maxime Devilliers