

September 3, 2015

Aaron & Anna Berman
5109 45th St. NW
Washington, DC 20016

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:

We strongly support modernizing the DC zoning code. After eight years of thorough public outreach and discussion, it is time to act. We urge you to update to the DC zoning regulations to reduce parking requirements, permit accessory apartments in low-density residential neighborhoods, and allow corner stores. While these are modest changes to an outdated 1958 zoning code, they are meaningful ways to make our city more affordable. We ask that you not delay in finalizing the proposed text, which is long overdue. We need these reforms in order to respond to the city's continued growth and rising demand for more affordable housing and better transportation choices.

In particular, we wish to express our support for the parking reforms in Subtitle C, which significantly reduce parking requirements near transit, including bus priority corridors. We also support the provisions to allow an accessory apartment in residential zones and corner stores, as described in Subtitle U.

These three critical areas of reform to the zoning code will help make DC a more sustainable, walkable, and inclusive city. We urge you to move forward with the long awaited update to the zoning code.

Thank you for considering our testimony.




Aaron & Anna Berman