

Thank you for allowing my testimony this evening about these important matters.

➤ Impervious surfaces

I had an SMD meeting last night (Monday, February 10, 2014) with reps from DC Water. There has been a charge on our water bills for the past 5 years that measures the impervious surface of your property and fees are tacked on to the bill because of it. In DC's efforts to clean up the Anacostia and Potomac rivers, water run-off from storms and drains are polluting the rivers. This is a serious problem that needs to be addressed. But without any warning or, more importantly, community vetting, DC Water charges customers TWICE for the lack of impervious surface on our properties in order to fix the storm water run-off problem. The fee will be on our bills for 15 more years and is expected to go up every October 1 until the fee sunsets OR the \$1 billion bill is paid back to the federal government for the storm water run-off tunnels mandated by the federal gov't to help fix the problem. You may ask what this has to do with the new zoning regs? Well the new zoning regs cement those fees on our bills possibly forever. The new zoning regulations require NEW or renovated homes and businesses to include impervious surfaces to be measured for the green area ratio (GAR), as a matter of right and quality standards for new housing monitored by DCRA. However, when people buy existing homes or those of us who have owned our homes for more than five years are being penalized for impervious surfaces that are not defined by existing zoning regulations or the new regs. The new zoning regulations don't address reasonable remedies for the existing homeowner to reduce the burden for the lack of impervious or fees on their water bill. Existing homebuyers should not bear the burden new zoning regulations that were NOT in effect when the homes were built unless they intend to renovate. Compounding the issue is the lack of any agency, committee or commission regulating and monitoring DC Water like there is for every other utility. DC Water is not regulated by OPC, PSC, WSSC or (formally) Corporation Counsel. I am asking that ZC to consider wording in the new regs that would not penalize homeowners of existing structures' lack of impervious surfaces until major renovations or permits are requested, or some other reasonable method of incorporating impervious surfaces for residents in the green area ratio.

✓ Community voices vs matter of right

My other matter is the new zoning regulations have lowered the standard of residential/voter input for many of the new regs. Many more issues are a matter of right but still intrude on ^{community character} residents' sensibilities and should be special exceptions not a matter of right. I am asking the ZC to consider all the issues that are germane to maintaining residential ^{character} cultural continuity such as parking, ADUs, corner stores and affordable housing ought to be special exceptions rather than matter of right.

Thank you for letting speak and hope you will take concerns seriously