

Testimony of William N. Myhre

3908 Ingomar Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015-1916
11 February 2014

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

**RE: Re: Zoning Case No. 08-06A, Subtitle C – Vehicle Parking Requirements and
Parking Minimums**

Dear Chairman Hood and the D C Zoning Commission:

Good evening My name is Bill Myhre I can accurately say that I am a life-long Washingtonian Even though I was born and raised in the “other Washington” I have lived in the District for nearly 40 years, the last 17 here in Ward 3 I am pleased to see how much the city has changed in positive ways during my time here

That we are now making changes to a zoning code that is more than 50 years old is very heartening to me I am particularly interested in expressing my support for the proposed changes that will eliminate or reduce parking minimums In my own neighborhood, I have followed the debates surrounding parking requirements for new projects, and have been struck by how much time and energy is spent debating parking needs for projects that sit practically on top of Metro stations – in what we now call transit zones.

Transit zones are the very places where we should focus dense development, to create more opportunities for affordable housing, and to provide options for people who are interested in car-free or car-lite living Although like many guys my age, I still have something of a love affair with the automobile, I know that many of our younger friends do not. Imposing parking minimums on projects in transit zones needlessly raises project costs, which get passed through – making already expensive housing even more unaffordable for average citizens. It is in the long-term best interest of all who live in DC to provide housing that is more attainable to a wide swath of individuals – our teachers, government workers, etc – not just those at the upper end of the income scale.

As I look down the road and see more and more young people moving to the city, I do worry about making sure that they can have a stake in the city They have the interest, the energy and wherewithal to live a life that relies more heavily on transit than on the

Testimony of William N. Myhre

car For the sake of our environment and to ensure the richness of the urban experience that comes with a more diverse population, we owe them every opportunity to do so.

Thus, I reiterate my support for proposal to reduce or eliminate parking minimums as part of the new Zoning Code

Thank you for your time, and for the opportunity to testify tonight

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William N. Myhre", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William N Myhre
3908 Ingomar Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015-1916