

February 18, 2014

Hugh Morris
4426 Grant Rd NW
Washington, DC 20016

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

Re: Zoning Case No. 08-06A, Subtitle C & D

Dear Chairman Hood and the D.C. Zoning Commission:

I am a DC native, born at GW Hospital 50 years ago. I have lived in four different DC neighborhoods during my life and am in awe that each new place I live is better than the last. The Subtitle C & D elements to the zoning update you are considering would provide extraordinary support for two development aspects that will help the city to become an even better place to live.

Regarding Subtitle C, I will say this: this city is changing rapidly and one of the most remarkable recent changes is the growth in transportation alternatives. While walking has always been enjoyable in this town and Metro has been available for decades, the recent advent of shared cars and bicycles has added a whole new layer of transportation options.

What I am getting at is that as the variety of transportation options INCREASES, the need for accommodating the private automobile (on both public and private land) DECREASES. I realize that reducing the number of parking spaces makes some people nervous but how many more transportation options does a place need before we stop giving so much to the automobile. All that land we set aside for parking could be put to much better use.

I am also supportive of Subtitle D which will ease the restrictions on Accessory Dwelling Units. Neighborhood vibrancy is what city living is all about. With all this "smart growth" development I think that More-is-More. More people living in an area puts more eyes on the street which increases safety, makes it possible for more small businesses to thrive, and means that a greater array of transportation options are viable.

Please adopt these measures: they will truly help DC evolve into a world-class 21st-Century city.

Thank you for considering my testimony.


Hugh Morris