

THE ZONING REGULATIONS REVIEW (ZRR) ZONING COMMISSION CASE No. 08-06A
MONDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2013 AT 6:00 P.M.

Subtitle Z: Zoning Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission. My name is Bénédicte Aubrun and I am a long term resident of Washington DC, more specifically in the Adams Morgan area, Ward I. I wanted to thank the Commission for the opportunity to testify on a very important topic today.

My testimony will be brief as I am here to urge the Commission to allow more time for the residents to review the new zoning regulations report that was presented by the Office of Planning a little more than a month ago. Indeed, how can the residents without the proper expertise on zoning can review and comment on such a massive document of 1000 pages in such short time? This process is not sufficiently collegial for there to be informed citizens participation. Citizens' review is further complicated by the failure of the OP's staff to indicate where changes were made and are being made for each update on the zoning regulations review as we go through this process. I am questioning the motives of OP with such obstacles to overcome.

It is my understanding that some ANC's have passed resolutions requesting the Zoning Commission to delay on its final decision to allow more time for review.

Listening to Chairman Hood, I am myself very involved in the community as a volunteer and the amount of work required could be compared to a full time job. I can see why people are afraid of getting involved in the ZRR because of the extreme difficulty to "dissect" and "decipher" the Office of Planning's document.

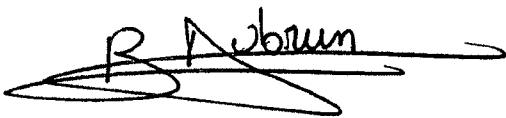
So I am asking the Commission what could be done to continue assisting ANC's and residents willing to work on that matter to be more familiar and educated on such a complex topic?

The public feels lost and needs to relate to the process and understand what the impacts of the new zoning report will have on each neighborhood.

Tonight shows and proves us there are still some discrepancies in the ZRR that need to be addressed. Massive public outreach and input are crucial to make our city a livable and better city.

I concur with the testimony of Nancy McWood, Mrs. Newman and Mr. Hargrove.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Aubrun", with a large, stylized flourish underneath.

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