

August 8, 2014

Donna Rosen
4108 Fessenden 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: Zoning Case No 08-06A

Dear Chairman Hood and the D C. Zoning Commission.

Good Evening, my name is Donna Rosen. I am a long time resident of the Friendship Hgts DC neighborhood, moving there from an apartment to a detached house in 1982. I live at 4108 Fessenden St NW I am here to express my strong support for the adoption of an updated modernized DC zoning code. The Zoning code has needed changes for many years and the process and effort to do this have dragged on too long This is the first time I have testified before the Zoning Commission. I am here because I think this is so important for the City where I have lived for a total of 37 years.

I support changes to the current regulations that will make the city more walkable and overall more environmentally friendly. I also support changes that will make it easier to increase the affordable/moderately priced housing stock. Specifically

Better options for creating an accessory dwelling unit
Revaluating parking minimums
Creating reasonable allowances for corner stores and accessory apartments
Simplifying the zoning code to make it more accessible and
Modernize the zoning code to better accommodate the needs of current and future DC residents

I support the "alternative language" that matches the September version of zoning update on parking around bus corridors and accessory apartments in carriage houses I support better options for homeowners to create an accessory dwelling unit without a long and burdensome process This would enable more residents to rent out a basement or garage to help pay the mortgage, give a young person the opportunity to find housing and let seniors age in place in their own homes. This would result in increasing the stock of affordable housing options in the City Easing parking requirements along busy transit corridors will help to create and preserve walkable, vibrant neighborhoods by increasing the use of transit and not mandating more parking than is actually needed by new residents. It will also provide accessible housing options for more people by making buildings less expensive to build.

I have observed drastic changes in the City More young people are seeking affordable housing and many do not have or want cars They use public transit, ride bikes and rent ZipCars or Car2Go. The nation's Capital should not be operating under an antiquated Zoning Code that does not take into account changes that have already occurred in our City as well as changes we can anticipate will occur in the future in such an important City I urge the Zoning Commission to take quick action to adopt a modern, forward looking zoning code that is worthy of Washington DC and its residents

Thank you for considering my testimony.



Donna Rosen