

November 21, 2013

Dear DC Office of Zoning,

Living in DC, versus the surrounding area, requires sacrifices, including:

- Higher tax rates
- Much higher crime rate, especially violent crime
- Higher car and home insurance rates
- Fewer retail choices
- Fewer non-government employers
- Inferior public services
- Unreliable emergency services
- Much inferior public schools
- Aggressive beggars and homeless people everywhere

In my 15 years as a DC resident, I have never worked at a DC-based employer and have commuted to Arlington, Rockville, and now Alexandria, which is where I venture every workday.

My rowhouse, which I own, does not have parking, so I pay the DC government for the privilege of parking on my block, where it is often a challenge to find an available spot when I return home every evening.

By massively increasing the number of "visitor" parking permits, the difficult parking situation in my neighborhood will be further exacerbated.

This visitor parking permit scheme could drive me and others away from residing in the District. It is not worth the daily hassle to live in a city that regularly punishes its residents.

Moreover, allowing new buildings to be constructed without any parking whatsoever, will only worsen the problem, because residents and visitors to such buildings will park on nearby streets.

In your zoning rewrite, please address the needs of DC residents and taxpayers like me, and don't be intimidated by the shrill voices of know-it-all, anti-car, arriviste parvenus - many of which don't even live in our city.

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