

February 2, 2026

**VIA E-mail**



D.C. Zoning Commission  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 200-S  
Washington, DC 20001  
Attn: [ZCSubmissions@DC.gov](mailto:ZCSubmissions@DC.gov)

**Re: Z.C. Case No. 12-08E: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (“WMATA”) Letter of Support for Approval of a Text Amendment to Subtitle K § 605.1, St. Elizabeth’s East Campus Zones**

Dear Chairman Hood and Members of the Commission:

On behalf of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (“WMATA”), I write to express our support for the proposed Text Amendment to Subtitle K § 605.1, St. Elizabeths East Campus Zone, to remove the ten-foot (10 ft.) front setback requirement for buildings within the St. Elizabeths East Campus 18 zone.

The proposed amendment is necessary to accommodate construction of the new District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL) branch planned to be constructed at 1547 Alabama Avenue, S.E. on WMATA-owned property. The footprint and configuration of the proposed library have been designed in coordination with WMATA to respond to existing site constraints and critical transit infrastructure. These constraints include existing escalator structures, ventilation shafts, and other below- and above-grade operational elements that must remain functional and accessible.

Because the building has been designed to work around and integrate with this existing infrastructure, the flexibility afforded by removal of the ten-foot front setback requirement is essential to deliver a viable project on the site. Requiring adherence to the setback would necessitate substantial redesign, which will continue to be constrained by WMATA’s operational facilities.

For these reasons, WMATA supports the proposed text amendment to remove the 10-foot setback requirement.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Andrew Scott  
E019938 WMATA

Digitally signed by Andrew Scott E019938 WMATA  
Date: 2026.02.02 13:55:57 -05'00'

Andrew J. Scott  
Acting Director of Real Estate and Development

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Transit Authority**

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[wmata.com](http://wmata.com)

*A District of Columbia,  
Maryland and Virginia  
Transit Partnership*

**ZONING COMMISSION**  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO. 12-08E  
EXHIBIT NO. 9

CC: Nia Rubin, Acting Vice President, Real Estate and Development  
Samantha Duré, Project Manager, D.C. Public Library  
Jaspreet Pahwa, Director, Capital Planning & Construction, D.C. Public Library