

Thursday, April 17, 2014

Anthony Hood

Chairman

DC Zoning Commission

Subject: Approve the VMP PUD!

Dear Chairman Hood:

I live at 2331 1st St NW (corner of 1st and Bryant), which is 1 block from the McMillan Park site. Prior to the recent tunnel project, I would walk past the site every day with my dog and feel so frustrated that this magnificent site was sitting vacant, trash-strewn and fenced and bard-wired, and totally inaccessible and unusable to the community. I am so anxious and excited to get this piece of property developed and usable for the local community and the city. I have seen the various sketches and plans from VMP and have attended several meeting over the years regarding this project and the plans. I am totally in favor of what VMP have planned for the site. I have been following this project for the past 4 years since moving into the neighborhood, and it finally appears to have the momentum to move forward. I addition to the prepared statement below, I wanted to send this personal message as well and lend my support for this project.

I am writing to express my support for approval of Vision McMillan Partner's (VMP) first-stage and consolidated PUD and related map amendment to rezone the McMillan property to CR and C-3-C Zone Districts.

As a resident of the surrounding community, I have observed over the last six years and participated in VMP's tremendous efforts to work with and for the community to conceptualize and develop plans for the former McMillan Sand Filtration Plant. The result is the creation of a place that local residents can enjoy and benefit from and that the greater District community can be proud of. VMP came back to us again and again when we had concerns or wanted changes and have consistently addressed the majority of our desires with thoughtful revisions.

The proposed plans, which truly pay homage to the historic significance of the site while providing a beautiful, new place to work, shop, play and live, offer residents and the district many tangible benefits, including:

- 12 acres of new, public open and green space;
- 3,200 permanent jobs;
- \$1.2 billion in new tax revenues;
- New contracting opportunities for local, small and disadvantaged businesses;
- Preservation of all 24 historic buildings on site;
- Local serving grocery and retail;
- A walkable community;
- 17,000 SF community center and pool;
- Affordable housing during a time that many consider the housing shortage to be at crisis level;
- And finally, an opportunity for the fences to come down so that we can actively enjoy this local treasure.

I join many in this community in asking for the support of the Zoning Commission on this issue and I am grateful for your thoughtful review and often-thankless work to bring meaningful and sustainable development to the District.

In closing, my neighborhood and the surrounding neighborhoods are changing and developing with each passing year. It is an exciting time to be living in DC. Me and my neighbors want and expect these local amenities and the beautiful green space for ourselves and our community. Please allow this project to move forward to strengthen and enrich our community. I am confident that once the site is completed, our neighborhood will be the envy of many.

Sincerely,

Thomas C Boeke

2331 1st St NW

Washington, DC 20001

ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO.13-14  
EXHIBIT NO.427

Submitted on 5/6/2014 by:  
Tom Boeke in Support!  
2331 1st St NW, Washington DC 20001