

Tuesday May 6, 2014

Anthony Hood

Chairman

DC Zoning Commission

Subject: Approve the VMP PUD!

Dear Chairman Hood:

I have been a resident of Bloomingdale for over a decade, and I strongly support this VMP plan. The neighborhood continues to improve and strengthen, and this plan will only hasten that progress. Opponents have no viable alternatives other than to protest, which will continue to detract from the progress Bloomingdale has made since I've lived here. Approve this plan, move forward with VMP's thoughtful approach, and make the right decision please.

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.

I trust the Commission, City, Council, and Mayor will stand with the voices for progress not protest in Bloomingdale for the continued community improvement that VMP's plan will bring.

Sincerely,

Chris Morton, Bloomindale resident since 2004

12 W St NW

Washington, DC 20001

Submitted on 5/6/2014 by:
Chris Morton in Support
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