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DC Office of Zoning
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RE: CASE NO. 14-18 (Mid-City Financial Corporation – 1st-StagePUD & Related Map Amendment @ Squares 3953, 3954, 4024, & 4025), Official Comments for the Record

To Whom it May Concern –

My name is Paul Burman, I am a 9 year District resident, and I live two blocks from the Brookland Manor apartment buildings. **I am in favor of rezoning the Brookland Manor apartments** to facilitate the development of the new Brentwood Village.

I have lived in the neighborhood on 13th St NE for a little more than a year, and have quickly come to appreciate and love my neighborhood. My block especially provides an amazing community and support among neighbors – they look after me, we all help to keep our streets clean, and we are all truly invested in the future of our neighborhood.

The Brookland Manor apartments serve an important role in the community and provide vitally needed housing for our low income neighbors, but it is clear that more development is needed to increase access to services and improve safety. I can't count the number of times in the last year that there have been shootings within blocks of my house, with fatalities being all too common. There is frequently a feeling of a hostile environment on the sidewalks outside of Brookland Manor, and there are streets that I actively avoid (Saratoga) at all costs due to both real and perceived threats.

The redevelopment plan for Brentwood Village has my support because it is committed to bringing increased access to services and economic opportunity to the neighborhood, and will include specific provisions for continued section 8 housing in the new development. The current residents of Brookland Manor and the neighborhood as a whole will benefit from this development, and we certainly hope that the DC Office of Zoning will quickly approve the rezoning plans.

Please consider these comments official and for inclusion in the public record.

Sincerely,

Paul Burman