

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Moriah Petty <moriahpetty@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 11:05 PM
To: DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: Urgent testimony for Brookland Manor/Brentwood Village zoning

Dear zoning commission and councilmember Kenyan McDuffie,

I am writing in regards to case number 14-18A which has a hearing on February 23, 2017. I oppose the current plan for including a reduced number of small affordable housing units in the new development replacing Brookland Manor. I have been a DC resident for just about 2 years and moved here for the diversity - ethnic, economic, religious, political - as well as all the fun lifestyle this city offers a young professional. But once we trade in the first for the latter, the city has lost its integrity. I can see the upside to moderated gentrification and support a lot of new developments. But this is atypical case of mismanaged gentrification. The WRONG kind that leads people to distrust all gentrification and stirs up conflict between old residents and new.

The eviction of a single resident of Brookland Manor is not an appropriate trade off for a luxury development. These families are currently living, largely without government assistance, one of the few places left in the city where it's possible for lower-income families to do so. The company has used aggressive and shady tactics to force residents out despite their promises not to force evictions. Residents were getting eviction notices for infractions as small as \$20 short on rent. The company knew that they were not in the circumstance to oppose this in court and therefore were forced out AND now have an eviction on their record—a sure road to homelessness. It puts discriminator and unjust suffering on these families and benefits no other DC residents. I stand by the community of Brookland Manor. So not authorize the zoning for the new development until they can offer the full size multi-room family apartments needed to house ALL the residents of the existing apartment within their budget.

I will be at the hearing on February 23rd. Do your duty in public service to these deserving DC residents and their allies. Don't be another disappointment.

Yours in solidarity,
Moriah Petty
Ward 2