

Leach, Deonte (DCOZ)

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From: Amanda Sauer <amanda_sauer@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 1:48 PM
To: DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ); Bardin, Sara (DCOZ)
Subject: Please support Lanier Heights zoning change

2016 JAN 11 PM 2:51

Dear Chairman Hood, Vice Chairwoman Cohen, Mr. Miller, Mr. Turnbull and Mr. May,

I am writing to let you know of our support to rezone Lanier Heights from the current R-5-B zoning to R-4 zoning (case number 15-09). This action is urgently required to save the diversity and character of our unique little neighborhood from development that is destroying historic family housing.

We are homeowners on Lanier PI and have lived in the neighborhood for nine years. In this relatively short time we have seen many historic houses converted into studio, one and two bedroom condos (which are the most profitable options for developers). The problem is that we are losing family housing and reducing the diversity of homeownership in the neighborhood. We have two school aged children and want to stay in the neighborhood for the long term. Without a large number of families to invest in schools and community, this becomes more and more difficult. There are not enough options for housing for families with more than one child, and as a result, the neighborhood is losing an important part of the community and tax base. With developers in the mix, housing prices are going up and options with more than two bedrooms are vanishing. Who is going to fight for better schools and parks when row houses are converted into studios that are sold every two years as they are rapidly outgrown?

We must think long term about the future of the city. Yes, we need more units overall in to meet increasing demand. Yet there are many ways to achieve this goal without destroying family housing. We need options that support households with more than two members that are a stable and important base of this city. Without action on your part, this constituency will decrease. Where are all the millennials that are driving the current population increase going to go once it is time for them to start a family? At this pace there will not be many housing options left for them in the future. We must save the historic, diverse, and eclectic character of neighborhoods such as ours from destruction to maintain the diversity and character of the entire city.

We urge you to please consider the position of the ANC and the overwhelming majority of homeowners in the neighborhood when deliberating this case. Remember, the vocal developers that are in front of you only have short-term interests and profits motivating their case to you. We are seeking to save the neighborhood that we love and want to stay in for the long term.

Thank you for your consideration,
Amanda Sauer and Sadao Milberg
(parents to Leo age 5 and Nina age 3)
1718 Lanier PI NW