

Leach, Deonte (DCOZ)

From: Joanne Trotter <joannetrotter70@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 10:38 PM
To: DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: Written Testimony for Case No 15-09

Dear Commissioners

I am writing to urge you to please accept the petition to rezone Lanier Heights to R-4. I have lived in the neighborhood for 8 years, originally as a tenant and since 2014 as a homeowner of a row house on Ontario Place. I have a young family and my 4 year old son attends the local elementary school - HD Cooke. Having houses that can accommodate growing families is vital to retaining the sense of community as well as the diversity and dynamism in the neighborhood. The conversion of increasing numbers of row homes to rather expensive apartments does nothing to improve diversity - it simply pushes families out and will profoundly change the profile of the neighborhood. With fewer families in the area, the progress our schools are making will stall and the strong connections between neighborhood families who look out for each other will be broken. This would be a great shame for the neighborhood.

For me, the damage that the popups do to the local environment is also a big issue. Blocks that take up practically the entire lot, are built without sufficient off-street parking, and block light from their neighbors seriously affect the quality of life for those living near them. Giving one family who chooses to sell their home to a developer a pay day at the expense of their neighbors' quality of life just doesn't seem right to me. The sellers and developers don't have to live with the consequences - those who remain the neighborhood do.

The campaign to rezone Lanier Heights to R-4 has been a long one which has significant support in the area. There are plenty of new condos going up in Adams Morgan, please let Lanier Heights keep its family-friendly community feeling and retain its diversity by accepting our petition.

With sincere thanks,
Joanne Trotter
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CASE NO. 15-09
EXHIBIT NO. 77
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