

Chris Otten, Proffered Expert Witness
Zoning & Planning
ZC Case 15-28

Chris Otten has significant experience with the DC Zoning Regulations, Zoning proceedings, the DC Comprehensive Plan, and law regarding zoning and planning in the District of Columbia.

Zoning Commissioners know of Mr. Otten's participation in the Zoning Regulations Review as well as acting as the authorized representative for parties to several high-profile Planned Unit Development cases. ZC Case Nos. 11-17, 11-12 & 15-19.

Mr. Otten has also presented BZA appeals cases. One critical winning appeal was that of the Mount Pleasant Library which helped set some standard on the authorization of the Zoning Administrator to deviate from the rear-yard requirements for irregular shaped lots. BZA Case No. 18152.

Mr. Otten was elected as a Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, ANC-1C02, in 2008 serving one full-term. In that role, he discussed and shaped many projects in the Adams Morgan community. Projects requiring relief from the zoning regulations were his expertise. Otten also ran for Mayor in 2006 seeking ways to develop the District without displacement of the existing families and culture.

Mr. Otten has started several non-profits focused on the working-class families in the DMV area, has started programs for homeless service providers, teaches computer classes so folks can access District services, including zoning and planning documents, and holds regular meetings on zoning and planning in the District.

Mr. Otten has a Bachelor of the Arts in Mathematics from the College of the Holy Cross, and is certified in Facilitative Leadership skills and CPR.

Mr. Otten is hereby proffered as an expert witness in ZC Case 15-28.