

**CASE NO. 16-11 (Park View Community Partners & District of Columbia –  
Consolidated PUD & Related Map Amendment @ Square 2890, Part of Lot 849)**

**December 5th 2016**

**Testimony of Sophia Waldstein**

*Ward 1 Resident*

Good evening DC Zoning Commission. Thank you for the opportunity to testify this evening. My name is Sophia Waldstein and I work in social services and housing at a DC area non-profit and am a member of Avodah, the Jewish Service Corps.

As a Ward 1 resident, a social justice advocate, and someone who works closely with those impacted by diminishing access to affordable housing, I support the Park Morton redevelopment plan. I believe that those living in public housing deserve to live in safe and dignified conditions. I further believe that displacement of those living in substandard public housing would be detrimental to the community and unjust.

I work daily with clients facing the harsh realities of displacement and costly living conditions in DC. Some have been displaced due to deplorable conditions in dilapidated housing, while others have experienced being priced out of their homes as the DC landscape changes. The residents of Park Morton deserve both safe and dignified living conditions without having to leave their community. Park Morton residents should not have to struggle to find housing while their substandard housing is improved.

This is a moment where I see my impact on my neighborhood. I work all day to ensure DC and its concerned citizens are given the opportunity to succeed in various paths--be it finding housing, a job prospect, or their next meal. I expect my community to do the same for me. I am a resident of ward 1 and I want this planned out, informed project to move forward so that hundreds of our neighbors don't have to compromise their safety to remain housed, in the building they call home. Thank you again for hearing our testimonies today.