

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Steve Seuser <steve.seuser@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:18 PM
To: DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: Redevelopment Project at Bruce Monroe (Case 16-11)

Dear DC Zoning Commission Member,

I oppose the proposed redevelopment project at Bruce Monroe Community Park. (Case 16-11) As a long-time community resident and frequent user of the park, I know that large numbers of neighbors use the park for all types of recreation and relaxation, enjoying a green space in the community with no other option within easy walking distance. I'm also a member of the community garden at the park, where over 100 gardeners grow food for themselves and share with the community around us, including people facing food security risks. The garden and park are an important hub for our community and should not be displaced by this oversized development that would tower over every other structure in the neighborhood, including the existing relatively high-density development around the Columbia Heights and U Street Metro Stations.

Legally, this development's sponsors and advocates have sought to short-circuit public input and blocked dissent. The city's new Comprehensive Plan requires a thorough impact assessment -- ensuring that negative impacts on neighborhoods, transportation, environmental quality, and other issues are assessed and adequately mitigated. The DC Appeals court made clear this was not thoroughly done. This important work must be thoroughly undertaken, and if necessary, alternative plans made and a new site selected for the redevelopment of Park Morton.

Thank you for your consideration of this development project and the significant impact it could have on our community.

Steve Seuser
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