

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Thomas Moylan <tmoylan89@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 18, 2021 2:33 PM  
**To:** DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Subject:** Please don't replace our park with a giant tower (16-11)

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DC Zoning Commission:

I oppose replacing Bruce Monroe Community Park with a 9-story-plus-penthouse tower. (Case 16-11)

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.

I have used this park for exercise, picnics, getting a mental break during my lunch break, amongst other things over the 5+ years I've lived down the street from the park. What does DC not need any more of...terribly unaffordable and out of place apartment buildings gentrifying neighborhoods. If you look at the streets surrounding the park, almost every corner row house has already been bought by a developer, gutted and turned into a 4-5 story apartment building or in the case directly next to the park on Irving, the developer put not one but two 4 story buildings in the space where one corner row house was. One of the best parts about DC is the skyline, at almost any point in the city, you can look up and still see a skyline. Due to the location at Irving and Georgia Avenue, you are at what I call the "top" of DC, go two blocks south and you start the large elevation drop to the downtown area. People in Park View, Petworth, etc. still have a nice open skyline, if you put a 9 story building in the place of Bruce Monroe Park, it will cut the skyline in that neighborhood for a long way down Georgia Ave.

Aesthetics aside, I actually use the park on a weekly basis to play basketball and work out. Without the park, I'll have to go over 10 blocks to get to the next court available. I always see young kids playing here after school and families having gatherings and parties here regularly.

Bottom line, does DC really need another upscale apartment complex gentrifying this neighborhood and destroying the historic aspect of the neighborhood? No, I think not. Why not, put a little money into the park to benefit the people who have lived in the neighborhood for decades or give an incentive for newcomers to live in that neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and please make the right decision, not the most profitable one.

Best,  
Tom Moylan  
632 Kenyon St. NW