

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Kathryn Barnes <kmbarnes03@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 4, 2019 5:10 PM  
**To:** DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Subject:** In Support of The Ladybird Proposal

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Dear Zoning Commission Members,

I am a condo owner in Ward 3 and I am writing to express my support for The Ladybird, a mixed use development in Ward 3.

The proposal offers to bring a new grocery store, a walkable community space, residential housing units and economic benefits for local businesses. All of these benefits are an asset in any community, but I would like to speak in particular to the affordable housing units. Currently in the District each new development is required to have 8% of the total units be dedicated to affordable housing. While that number serves the greater district, The Ladybird is proposing 10% of their units will be dedicated to affordable housing.

This is important on many levels. A recent study by DC Fiscal Policy Institute shows the vanishing affordable housing options since 2002. Sharply rising rents in the district have led to the virtual disappearance of low cost private housing across the city. With stagnant incomes, the result is a city wide problem of residents spending the majority of their incomes on rent and utilities. They struggle each month to maintain stable housing and afford such necessities like food and transportation. Additionally, this proposal can increase diversity in Ward 3 for all residents.

I urge the Ward 3 Advisory Neighborhood Commission to support The Ladybird and the much needed affordable housing units.

Best regards,  
Kathryn Barnes

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