

February 7, 2018

Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 200S
Washington, DC 20001
Re: Supports for Zoning Commission Case No. 17-20

Dear Members of the Commission:

I am writing in support of the proposed text amendment known as Zoning Commission Case No. 17-20. I am a parent of a young child in DC and have had firsthand experience with the difficulty of finding convenient, quality, and affordable childcare. Also, as a parent of a child at Petit Scholars in Brookland, DC, I am familiar with the cost and the affect that zoning restrictions have on childcare centers and the working parents that rely on them. These difficulties have a ripple effect to local businesses and workplaces that employ the affected parents.

When these regulations caused a delay in the opening of Petit Scholars new location on Rhode Island Ave, it caused serious hardship for multiple families, ours included. As city residents, we value the ability to walk to amenities in our neighborhood, including child care and education. Our son attends the local DCPS school and we were thrilled to send our daughter to Petit Scholars. These zoning restrictions make it difficult for childcare centers to operate and likewise delayed opening of the new center by two months. As a family with two working parents, this was an unnecessary burden to scramble to find childcare. Petit Scholars and its director are dedicated to improving the availability of childcare in Brookland/Woodridge and should not be impeded by city regulations.

I therefore urge the Commission to expeditiously approve the proposed corrections and reinstate the permitted use for childcare centers.

Sincerely,

Janelle Hurwitz
Ward 5

