



# National African-American Neighborhoods Homeowners and Tenants Advocate

A National Group of Volunteer Community Advocates

Dr. Wrdaa Amkar, Architect

Monday, July 12, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. Suite 200S  
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: Formal Objection to ZC Case # 19-03  
Proposed Map Amendment of Masjid Muhammad Inc.  
aka - THE CLARA

Dear Commissioners:

This letter of opposition to the proposed map amendment and development known as THE CLARA, strongly supports denial of the application for all the reasons stated in the opposition filed by Dr. William Day, and we would also like to add the following statements in opposition:

We strongly agree with Dr. Day's assessment of the historic significance of the real property located on the site of the proposed development, and respectfully demand that the property be submitted for a full review and hearing before the Historic Preservation Review Board, "prior to its consideration for a map amendment, demolition, or any future development."

In light of Congress passage of Public Law 115-102 on January 8, 2018, [H.R. 1242] - 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act, officially recognizing 2019 as the 400 year mark of our captivity and enslavement as a race and people, the map amendment and proposed use is an insult to all black people, and will be devastating to the psychic of present and future generations of black people due to the loss of our one true symbol of hope that has remained in Ward 8.

Once again, we oppose the proposed map amendment for this site and respectfully demand that the property be submitted for a full review and hearing before the Historic Preservation Review Board, where all interested persons will be given an equal opportunity to be heard on the official record.

Sincerely

*B.A. Coles*

B.A. Coles, *Master Advocate*  
Trustee

Cc  
ANC 8A