

CASE 20-14, 5 M St. SW, TESTIMONY TO DCOZ, 11/12/20

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION

My name is Hara Ann Bouganim, 1101 3rd St. SW, Unit 415, 3 blocks west of the project. I speak from experience on the Southwest Small Area Plan Advisory Committee, involvement with two adjoining developers, service on our Waterfront Tower condo board 6½ years, and successful placing of our I.M. Pei-designed condo on the National Register.

DELAY DESIGN APPROVAL, pending the following:

1. SUPPORT THE DIVERSITY OF SOUTHWEST, as other speakers so eloquently have stated.
2. INVOLVE SOUTHWEST RESIDENTS FULLY in the planning of 5M, in accordance with the Southwest Small Area Plan, to support an inclusive, architecturally respectful, green Southwest.
3. RESPECT THE UNIQUE ARCHITECTURE OF SOUTHWEST, both the “sanitary homes”, rowhouses directly across M, and the Mid-century Modern developments. One suggestion, to emphasize entry to Southwest step back the west side of the development above the townhouses and step down the southwest corner building.
4. PROVIDE PUBLIC GREEN STREET-LEVEL SPACE. Contrast with the street walls of S. Capitol St. and the Navy Yard area. Provide a semi-circular parklet in the southwest corner of 5M, with benches, trees, and plantings. The main entry could edge the space, emphasizing a welcoming connection of 5m to Southwest for all, a true gateway.

Thank you for listening to a resident’s perspective. Delay would allow for input to truly merge 5M with Southwest.