

December 3, 2020

Hon. Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Hon. Anthony Hood
Chairman
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 200S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Support for D.C. Council and D.C. Zoning Commission Approvals (Z.C. Cases 20-21 & 20-24) Necessary for Redevelopment of Barry Farm

Dear Chairman Mendelson, Chairman Hood, and Fellow Councilmembers and Zoning Commissioners:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8C is providing this letter in support of the Barry Farm redevelopment and the approvals necessary for the redevelopment to move forward.

On November 4, 2020, ANC 8C held a public meeting to consider Zoning Commission Case No. 20-21 which is a proposed text amendment to create a new Barry Farm zone category; Zoning Commission Case 20-24 which would apply the new Barry Farm zoning to the Barry Farm site; and forthcoming legislation that will be required by the D.C. Council to approve street and alley closings and dedications.

Proper notice of this November 4, 2020 meeting was provided via the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions website, ANC 8C social media and the ANC 8C newsletter. Four ANC Commissioners constitute a quorum, and 5 ANC commissioners were present at the November 4, 2020 meeting.

With regard to Z.C. Case 20-21 and Case 20-24, ANC 8C believes that approval of these applications will help to fulfill many of the physical, building goals of the Barry Farm | Park Chester | Wade Road Redevelopment Plan (the “Barry Farm Small Area Plan”); will help to enable redevelopment of the site and new replacement housing so that former Barry Farm residents have the opportunity to return to the Barry Farm site; and as described in the Office of Planning report, will enable the creation of mixed-income housing, a variety of housing types including yards, retail space, and green and open spaces. Overall, we believe that approval of these two cases is essential given the long-delayed redevelopment of the site and the current vacant status of the majority of the Barry Farm site.

With regard to S.O. No. 17-26688 regarding the proposed street and alley closings, and S.O. 17-26689 regarding the proposed dedication of land for public street and alley purposes, ANC 8C believes the proposed street and alleys to be closed are unnecessary for public street and alley

purposes. ANC 8C further believes that the proposed new streets and alleys to be created are a substantial improvement and are consistent with a number of the recommendations in the Barry Farm Small Area Plan, which states that: “Key elements of the Physical Plan for the neighborhood include [c]reating a new grid of residential streets linking Sumner Road and Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue eliminating the isolation of the existing neighborhood and providing addresses for new residential units.” Barry Farm Small Area Plan at pg. 3. The Barry Farm Small Area Plan also states: “The community’s internal roadway network is inefficient in terms of its current directional flow patterns (i.e.,one-way streets) and block lengths. Even though the community has an extensive alleyway system the roadway network present challenges for both vehicular and pedestrian circulation.” Barry Farm Small Area Plan at pg. 20.

Based on the above, ANC 8C voted unanimously to issue this support letter and to recommend that: (1) the Zoning Commission approve Z.C. Case No. 20-24 (map amendment) and Z.C. Case No. 20-21 (text amendment), and that (2) the D.C. Council approve the legislation necessary for the proposed street and alley closings and openings (S.O. No. 17-26688 and S.O. 17-266899).

ANC Commissioner Mustafa Abdul-Salaam is authorized by ANC 8C to present this letter before the D.C. Council and the Zoning Commission.

Sincerely,



Mustafa Abdul-Salaam
Vice-Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8C