

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Jillian Du <jilliandu8@gmail.com>
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To: DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: Testimony for case 20-21

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Dear Zoning Board Members,

My name is Jillian Du and I am a resident of Ward 5. I am submitting a testimony against the Office of Planning's proposal for rezone Barry Farms (case # 20-21). My address is 33 Adams St NW, Washington, DC 20001.

DC has a history of broken promises to public housing residents even when there ARE policies or statutes in place. NCI has never honored its commitments to build first when possible, to replace public housing units one-for-one, to rebuild communities, and to return residents to those communities. Never once have they redeveloped a community from start to finish and returned the residents.

The DC Court of Appeals agreed with Barry Farm residents that the NCI plan was unacceptable, and it was the responsibility of NCI to renegotiate and make a better plan with residents.

This rezoning effort smacks of an end run around the Court of Appeals decision and a bad faith effort to force through a redevelopment that is not what residents want. We want the court case honored!

How can we trust the city when this hearing today is meant to skirt a court order and active policy documents like New Communities and the existing Small Area Plan?

If this maneuver is allowed, it could be a precedent for other redevelopments, thus undermining the rights of all public housing residents.

We want the humanity and the rights of Barry Farm's – and all public housing – residents to be respected. It is inhumane to pretend that this historic parcel of land is not significant to residents. We also want DMPED to address the hardships that residents face as a result of their displacement, such as providing adequate support with moving and storage and funding reunions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jillian Du