

I am a resident of Ward 2, 2B05 and would like to state my opposition to the rezoning proposed for 1617 U Street NW. I ask that my written testimony be included in the public record for ZC 23-02.

Although I am not a resident of the area directly impacted by this zoning change, I have become very concerned about the case and particularly the way this case is being handled. To my way of thinking, zoning is intended for protection against placement of inappropriate construction. In this case, inappropriate construction is being suggested by the rezoning requested. A 10-23 story building with penthouse would bring with it many changes to the local area, all of them negative. The District needs affordable housing - a structure of this type with luxury housing would not go toward that goal. Although my Fire/EMS station is on M Street, my local MPD station is at this location. There has been vague promises to return the fire station, but not the MDP component, nor has there been discussion of a replacement. A number of rental buildings in the area, some of the residents relocated during other developments, will be negatively impacted by this construction.

This proposal needs much more detail and close consideration of the community affected. That discussion has clearly not taken place. Until this proposal is given that level of thought, I remain opposed.

Submitted on 6/25/2023 by:

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