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Cc: [Schellin, Sharon \(DCOZ\)](#)
Subject: ZC Case 23-02: Opposed to 1617 U Street rezoning
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Dear Zoning Commissioners,

I continue to be appalled at the privatization of public space in this city. Is land so expendable and so cheap that the Mayor can cast off public space, painstakingly accumulated for public benefit over the course of a century, because there's more to replace it?

Where is respect for community concerns? The Bowser government talks a big game about "community engagement" but shows little actual interest in hearing from the community or, God preserve us, taking guidance from it.

People are drawn to move to DC, to stay in DC, to a great extent by its built environment. When all of the building fabric known to our ancestors and beloved by generations has been blown to dust, and the entire cityscape resembles stacked shipping containers or upended shoeboxes, constructed of cheap glass and faux copper siding, who will want to spend a dime to live here?

Why not solicit a not-for-profit developer to build all affordable building atop a new police station and fire station on this 2-acre site at a scale that is sympathetic with surrounding small-scale buildings? MU10 rezoning is not.

Why not unleash the city to build such a facility, as it has done with success for emergency short-term housing across the wards? Include an underground parking garage for the first responders' needs. How about a library and much needed green space? Why upzone to high-density to ensure that a a twelve-story building is erected?

Rezoning the 1.88 acre public site at 1617 U Street is not supported by the DC Comprehensive Plan Generalized Policy Map. It expects a mixed zoning across this site, not a singular high-density zone across the entire property.

I am a DC resident fighting the surplus/disposition/privatization of public property elsewhere in the city also.

Please add my testimony to the public record for ZC Case Number 23-02.

Thank you.
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