

From: alexandrahfc@yahoo.com
To: [DCOZ - ZC Submissions \(DCOZ\)](#)
Cc: [Schellin, Sharon \(DCOZ\)](#)
Subject: We want our voices to matter for 1617 U Street rezoning: Case No. 23-02
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To the Office of Zoning and Commissioners,

Please see my written comments below (for the record) and please sign me up to testify on June 26th in opposition to the rezoning application for 1617 U Street NW.

I live nearby 1617 U Street NW.

I'm appalled that the Office of Planning is pushing rezoning that will allow a new building at 17th and V Street that may likely exceed 550,000 gross square feet and reach up more than 100 feet in height.

There are no areas zoned this way in the vicinity or in the surrounding neighborhoods. This is a downtown sized rezoning (MU10) and what likely will resolve into a downtown sized 'by-right' building at this location.

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

This is a game changer for our community and its not being discussed very openly which is troublesome especially because of the jargon involved.

I can't seem to fathom how the DC Zoning Commission could even begin to consider supporting this rezoning application without knowing more about the obvious impacts & harms as well as potential solutions to the issues and even the benefits that may affect your constituents.

I am asking you to postpone any vote on the 1617 U Street re-zoning until the community is all welcomed to at least one large community forum to get feedback, discuss ideas and concerns with code officials and planning experts, and take extensive feedback on the impact of rezoning this site to something unlike anything else in the area.

Otherwise, I'd ask Zoning Commissioners to vote no on this unstudied and under-evaluated proposal and resolution, or ask for an amendment that seeks a subdivision of the site and mixed district rezoning at much more appropriate and compatible zoning designations. This is not Downtown DC.

Thank you and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Alexandra Fields Collin
alexandrahfc@yahoo.com
2022152530
Ward: 1
Zip: 20009