

From: [Gordon Moore](#)
To: [DCOZ - ZC Submissions \(DCOZ\)](#)
Subject: Case No. 23-02 Upzoning 1617 U Street
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I am writing in opposition to the zoning request for the property at 1617 U Street. This zoning request is premature given that the Office of Planning has not disclosed with any level of fidelity or assurance the kind of building that is currently contemplated and what function the building will serve.

When I submitted my suggestions for potential public use for the property on June 24, 2022, I stated that the primary purpose of the replacement structure should be to house all of the functions and vehicles of the MPD's Third District Headquarters and the Fire and EMS Department's Engine Company. This should include adequate off street parking for all police and emergency vehicles, off street parking for police and EMS employee vehicles with enough space to accommodate shift changes, and off street parking for any other public functions that might be located in the building.

To date the city and the Office of Planning has failed to confirm to residents that the police, fire, and EMS functions will remain at the 1617 U Street address. The closest thing I got to an answer to this key neighborhood question was an email from Mr. Alex Feinman, Development Manager in the Office of Planning and Economic Development. He stated in an email to me on June 17, 2022, that, "Per the project website, the municipal uses on site, including FEMS Engine Company 9 and MPD's Third District headquarters, are contemplated to remain onsite upon redevelopment."

This zoning request leads me to believe that the city has already decided what will be built and for what purposes it will be built before there is any meaningful public discussion. It also leads me to believe that the Office of Planning is contemplating a structure that may or may not include those emergency services listed above.

If the Office of Planning develops a detailed building requirement document, with input from the 3rd District MPD, the Fire and EMS Engine Company, and affected residents, and it is determined that a taller building will be required to meet the public need then that would be the appropriate time to submit a zoning request. This should only happen after thorough public vetting of the project with input from all affected parties being given due consideration.

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