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January 7, 2024

Anthony J. Hood, Chair
District of Columbia Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 200S,
Washington, DC 20001
Email: dcoz@dc.gov

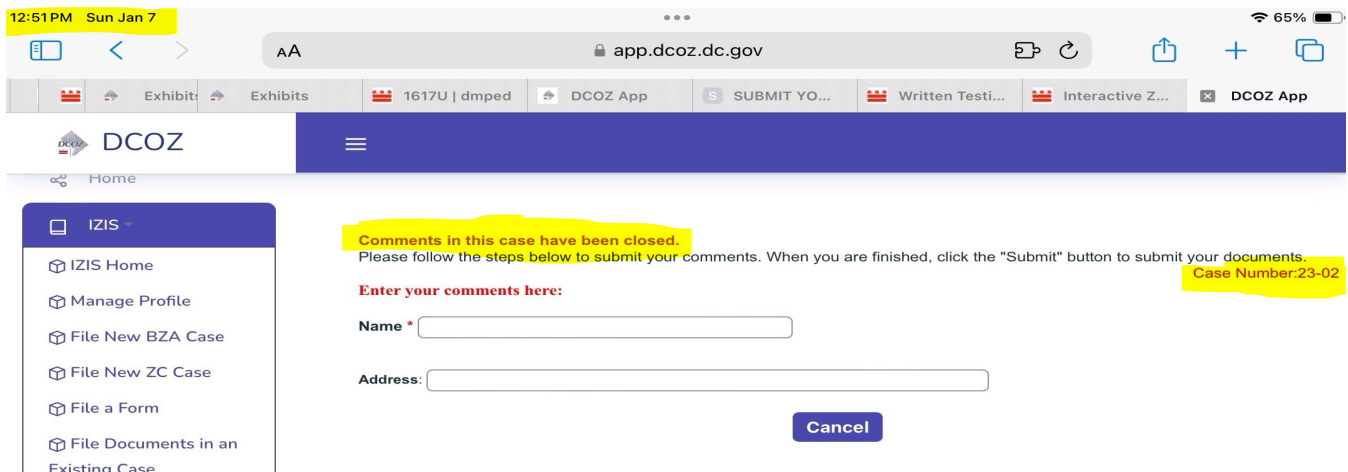
Re: **Zoning Commission Case 23-02**
Hearing Date: January 7, 2024
Right of Public to Submit Written Comments
Prematurely Cut-off

Dear Chair Hood:

I have received multiple complaints today that the Zoning Commission has prematurely cut-off the right of the public to submit written comments. People who tried to submit written comments on *Sunday morning* and *Sunday afternoon* in Case 23-02 have not been able to do so.

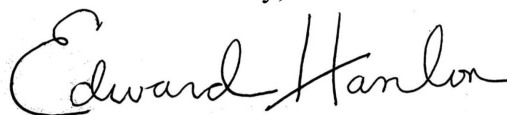
This is clearly wrong since the Office of Zoning website and the Public Notice in this case state the public is allowed to submit written testimony up to 24 hours before the start of the hearing, as Ms. Schellin, Secretary to the Commission, has also previously confirmed. Below is a screenshot one person sent me who had been trying since this morning to submit testimony. I tried myself at 1:48pm, in order to verify the problem persists and received the same message.

Prematurely cutting off the right of the public to submit testimony in this case is serious. When did the Commission cutoff the right of the public to submit written testimony in this case? How could such a problem happen?



The screenshot shows a mobile browser interface for the DCOZ website. The address bar displays 'app.dcoz.dc.gov'. The page content includes a navigation menu on the left with options like 'IZIS Home', 'Manage Profile', and 'File New BZA Case'. The main content area features a message: 'Comments in this case have been closed. Please follow the steps below to submit your comments. When you are finished, click the "Submit" button to submit your documents.' Below this message is a form with fields for 'Name *' and 'Address:', and a 'Cancel' button. A yellow highlight is present on the message text, and another yellow highlight is on the text 'Case Number: 23-02' in the top right corner of the page.

Sincerely,



Edward Hanlon

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.23-02
EXHIBIT NO.535

cc:

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