

From: [Jordan Bishop](#)
To: [Schellin, Sharon \(DCOZ\)](#); [DCOZ - ZC Submissions \(DCOZ\)](#)
Subject: Re: ZC Public Hearing: Case No. 23-02
Date: Monday, January 8, 2024 1:27:54 PM

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Good afternoon Ms Schellin - I am looking forward to testifying this afternoon (time permitting of course). Below is a written copy of my testimony for the record:

Good afternoon – my name is Jordan Bishop and I live at 1615 13th St NW, about ½ mile from 1617 U St NW. I am a native Washingtonian, a small business owner, and an advocate of progressive policies that seek to improve my hometown – ideally those seeking to make the District more inclusive, vibrant and resilient.

The District of Columbia has a demonstrated lack of affordable housing citywide – and this dearth of affordable housing options is even more pronounced in many of its more affluent areas including those well served by amenities, retail and transit options. Housing supply is explicitly limited by land use regulations, driving up prices especially in desirable areas of the District.

According to [DMPED](#), Ward 2 has seen less than 500 new affordable housing units created since 2015, the 2nd lowest total in the District and less than 25% of many other Wards (including Wards 6 and 8). Ward 1 is not much better at only 650 units produced, while Wards 5, 6, and 8 have all produced over 1,750 units each. Upzoning this site is an opportunity for the District to ameliorate this inequitable discrepancy.

There are many factors that influence the housing market's ability to create and improve the supply of housing – unfortunately many of those variables are not subject to local control including the cost of commodities, interest rates and capital market fluctuations, etc. That said, one critical variable that IS very much within the purview of local control is land use regulation. In the face of so many systemic challenges facing District residents, we should absolutely endeavor to use the levers and tools available to us as a municipality to help make the District more inclusive, equitable, and economically vibrant.

I strongly support the Office of Planning's proposed map amendment to rezone Square 0175.

Thank you,

Jordan Bishop

1615 13th Street NW

On Mon, Jan 8, 2024 at 12:15 PM Schellin, Sharon (DCOZ) <sharon.schellin@dc.gov> wrote:

Monday, January 8, 2024

4:00 PM | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada) | 5 hrs

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