

Letter in Support of ZC Case No. 24-15, 901 Monroe Street, LLC

April 18, 2025

Dear Chairman Hood and Members of the Commission,

I have lived a few blocks away from the site of the proposed development for over three years. From the time I moved here, I wondered why such a large and conveniently sited plot of land was vacant and over time I have wondered why it remains vacant. Even before I knew about the ongoing attempts to develop the piece of land, I thought it would be an excellent site for an apartment building due to its proximity to the Metro.

I also believe that the building would create a stronger connection between Brookland and the area to the west of the tracks; currently, the vacant site created an uninviting dead zone between these two areas. I think that both commercial corridors (Monroe Street and 12th Street) would benefit from this development by making it more pleasant to walk from one to the other and also by allowing more people to live near these businesses. This will also be advantageous at night, as currently that stretch of Monroe Street feels deserted after dark.

I typically walk by the site, especially the Monroe Street side of the site, multiple times per week. This has kept it at the top of my mind during my time living in the area. Even as it is, the current stretch of sidewalk is extremely unpleasant, as it is narrow, up against a fence, and periodically blocked by obstacles such as utility poles. This development would add an attractive new building and improve the sidewalks. This will be a more inviting image for Brookland to present to residents and visitors than the current condition of the site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Szpisjak', with a stylized, cursive script.

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