

John B. F. Martin
3304 17th Street NE
Washington, DC 20018

Via email:

D.C. Zoning Commission
C/O Office of Planning
899 North Capitol Street NE
Washington, DC 20002
Zcsubmissions@dc.gov

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

Dear D.C. Zoning Commission,

I am a resident of Brookland, along with my husband and my corgi, and I am writing in support of the proposal, under ZC Case No. 24-15, by Menkiti Group to develop 901 Monroe Street, NE, as a mixed use building consisting of approximately 230 residential units. I believe that this development will, combined with other recently proposed changes or further development near the Brookland/CUA Metro Station, enhance the vitality of the community and help bolster housing supply, which in turn will create greater competition in the housing market and improve affordability via price competitiveness. Currently, the empty lot at 901 Monroe Street, NE, contributes virtually nothing to the community, so putting this parcel to a productive use is in the interest of all. And while I respect and understand that some would desire more retail development and green space options in this project—who wouldn’t, in an ideal world—we should not let the perfect become the enemy of the good here. The currently proposed predominantly residential building would still offer a large range of popular housing options, like one-bedroom apartments, that could draw more people to our community and strengthen its economy. At a time when local businesses are starting to close and displaced federal workers may be forced to leave our neighborhood and indeed the city for new employment opportunities, this new development could at least ease supply constraints, draw positive attention to the neighborhood, and hopefully do a little bit to combat some of the adverse macro trends in this area. Therefore, I strongly support the approval of the 901 Monroe Street project, including approval of any necessary zoning authorizations. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



John B. F. Martin