

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** pete rodrigue <noreply@adv.actionnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 27, 2025 10:29 AM  
**To:** DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Subject:** Please pass the text amendment in case # 25-06

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Members of the Zoning Commission,

Dear Commissioners,

I am a co-op member in Lanier Heights. I love DC and have lived here for 8 years, and have no plans to leave.

Part of my love for the District involves imagining how it could look in the future. In the future, it would be fantastic if there were more housing options. I haven't been priced out of DC, like so many people have, but I've still felt DC's housing squeeze, in that I'm 33, make a GS-13 income, and still all I could afford, without putting myself in immense financial precarity, is my 398 square-foot studio. Don't get me wrong, I like my little space. But it's crazy that this is all someone in my financial position could afford. And it's limited my life in ways both big and small. Here's just one example: I was exploring becoming a foster parent, and was immediately ruled out because I don't live in a large enough place. This policy obviously makes sense, but DC's exorbitant housing prices mean that only the extremely wealthy (and older people who bought homes decades ago) can become foster parents in DC.

I actually wrote recently about how much underutilized land there is in DC's alley spaces:  
<https://ggwash.org/view/99768/how-in-2016-we-got-less-of-lanier-heights>  
<https://ggwash.org/view/100140/how-lanier-heights-could-glow-up>

If there were more housing options like alley residences, that would be a boon to people like me. It would be a chance to have a little more living space. Which would mean the ability to foster or raise a kid, or just have friends over for dinner. Sometimes I don't think rich people

and older people who bought decades ago really understand just how housing constrained younger people are in DC, because they haven't experience it themselves.

Please approve the text amendment in ZC-25-06. The proposed changes would help address DC's housing shortage and align with the city's goals to support equitable and inclusive growth. To help support housing creation, please consider,

1. Eliminating expensive parking mandates for alley homes (many people in rowhome areas would live there without a car; I do and I have never owned a car)
2. Aligning unit limits with the limits of their zones.
3. Aligning the height limits of alley homes with their zones.

These changes will help us build a more inclusive, vibrant, and affordable DC.

Sincerely,

Pete Rodrigue

(NB: I am writing this in my personal capacity. None of the views expressed here reflect those of my employer)

pete rodrigue  
edwardpierrero@rodrigue@gmail.com  
1801 clydesdale pl nw  
washington , District of Columbia 20009