

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3A



October 18, 2025

DC Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

RE ZC 25-12 Omnibus Text Amendment

Dear Chairman Hood and Members of the Zoning Commission:

I am writing on behalf of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3A (ANC3A) to share our official vote on the proposed text amendment ZC 25-12, referred to as the “Omnibus” proposal, containing 24 separate provisions. We appreciate the opportunity to comment. It is commendable that the DC Office of Planning (OP) has worked so diligently to identify areas in zoning regulations that are not clear, are not consistent with other language or the intent of the zoning framework, or otherwise require technical corrections. Some are complex and required illustrations and analysis. Others are brief and almost self-explanatory from their title. We are grateful for OP’s initiative to hold information sessions for ANC Commissioners, in order to describe the need for corrections and explain the proposed changes in the nearly 100-page Setdown Report. Though we would have liked to see more communication and greater participation in the sessions, OP’s approach seemed to be an improvement in the overall effort to share proposals for zoning text amendments.

It is also important that the public, including property owners and others who would potentially be affected by changes in the language of zoning regulations, should get appropriate notice of the changes under consideration and have a chance to review them, submit comments and have their testimony heard in a public hearing. With a large number of changes being proposed across multiple parts of the zoning regulations, potentially affecting a high proportion of properties in the District, it would be very difficult if not impossible for any ANC or a resident or property owner to assess the effects of a text amendment, organize comments, and present cogent testimony for the Zoning Commission to hear and discuss at one hearing.

We commend the Chair and other members of the Zoning Commission at the July 10 Setdown Hearing on this text amendment for the suggestion that the disparate provisions of the Omnibus proposal should be divided into smaller groups for the public hearings, to allow the Commissioners and witnesses a full opportunity to review and discuss the proposed changes. To assure open and transparent procedures and maintain public accountability, it is essential that regulatory and adjudicatory bodies in the District provide not only clear advance notice but also sufficient time for interested stakeholders and the responsible officials to be able to examine the proposals, have useful witness testimony, and participate fully and effectively in a public hearing. Those are essential elements in our system of governance and the democratic process.

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (January 1, 2025-December 31, 2026) www.anc3a.org

3A01	3A02	3A03	3A04	3A05
Thaddeus Bradley-Lewis	Gracemary Allen	Isaac Bowers	Claire McCafferty	Ann Lane Mladinov

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 25-12
EXHIBIT NO. 128

For that reason, ANC 3A voted unanimously at its duly-noticed public meeting on October 18, 2025, at which all five sitting ANC members were present, to recommend that the Zoning Commission cancel its scheduled hearing on October 30, 2025, on the full range of changes proposed in ZC 25-12, and instead divide the 24 provisions of the proposed text amendment into groups and schedule each group for a separate hearing. We understand that several other ANCs and public interest organizations have also made the same request and we join them in that recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Thaddeus Bradley-Lewis
Chair