# Response to "DCRA's Response to Intervenor's Statement" Shelby and Adam Telle, Intervenors BZA Case 19818

## Intervenor's Responses to DCRA

# Response to DCRA's claim that "the proposed construction does not violate the 5-foot side yard requirement"

DCRA claims that "the Property Owner has the option of providing no side yard **or** a 5-foot side yard."<sup>1</sup> When 11-E DCMR § 307.1 is read in conjunction with 11-E DCMR § 307.3, side yard shall be provided on any side of a building that is free-standing. The Property Owner would have the option of providing no side yard if building a traditional row-home, attached on both sides. Here, however, the house will be semi-detached, necessitating side yard, which is defined as five feet under 11-E DCMR § 307.3.

Further, the Property Owner would not be able to build to the side property line while still maintaining the planned setback from the street and rear setback. Building to the side property line would then violate the required lot occupancy, again necessitating a side yard, of which the 11-E DCMR § 307.3 requires 5-feet.

Even non-conforming side-yards require "a minimum of two feet" under 11-E DCMR § 307.4. The Property Owner is building 11 inches from the property line.

## Response to DCRA's Claim that "The Proposed Plans do not violate 11-C DCMR § 201"

DCRA claims that the non-conforming structure at 1267 Penn Street NE has not been expanded because the "footprint, gross floor area, nor mass of the non-conforming structure, encroaching into the side yard, are expanded."<sup>2</sup> Mass is a measure of the amount of matter something contains. The prior non-conforming structure sat on wooden stilts, was unenclosed, and could be walked under from front yard to backyard. The proposed construction plans expand the non-conforming structure downward, enclosing space that was previously yard beneath the non-conforming structure. As such, the mass of the non-conforming structure is double the original mass, constituting an enlargement of a non-conforming structure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> BZA Case 19818, "D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs' Response to Intervenor's Statement" at page 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> BZA Case 19818, "D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs' Response to Intervenor's Statement" at page 3.

### Response to DCRA's Claim that "The Proposed Plans do not violate 11-C DCMR § 202."

DCRA outlines the standard the Office of the Zoning Administrator has laid out for what constitutes a raze. The Intervenors assert that in applying that standard, it is apparent that the non-conforming structure at 1267 Penn Street NE has been razed. Using DCRA's standard that a raze occurs when less than "40% of the pre-existing wall surface area" remains,<sup>3</sup> the non-conforming structure has been razed because 100% of it's pre-existing walls have been torn down. As Architectural Plan A0100, Part 2: Existing Site Plan demonstrates, the non-conforming structure off the original home was in-fact a separate structure as demonstrated by the dividing wall between it and the main home. (See Attachment A). As such, the entire non-conforming structure has been razed because every wall has been removed.

The Intervenors take further issue with the claim that the "Office of the Zoning Administrator reviewed the plans and found that the proposed construction: 1) did not change the gross floor area of the Property; 2) did not change the lot occupancy; [and] 3) did not change the height of the non-conforming structure." In fact, every level's gross floor area has increased and the lot occupancy increased as noted in Architectural Plan CS-2. (See Attachment B). The height of the nonconforming structure also increased as demonstrated by Architectural Plans A0201 and A0202. (See Attachment C with the non-conforming structure on the righthand side of the building in the drawings).

11-C DCMR § 201.2 holds that a nonconforming structure existing at the time of the zoning laws "may be continued, operated, occupied, or maintained." In the situation at hand, however, the entire nonconforming structure has been destroyed in a raze using the standard adopted by the Zoning Administrator. 11-C DCMR § 203 goes to lengths discussing when a nonconforming structure may or may not be rebuilt when destroyed by fire, collapse, explosion, or act of God. Rebuilding is not guaranteed for these actions. Purposeful destruction of a non-conforming structure should be read as being excluded from being rebuilt in ways that would violate existing zoning laws.

#### **Conclusion**

The Intervenors join the Appellant in requesting that the Board reverse the issuance of Permit B1804093 in full. The Intervenors request that any construction at 1267 Penn Street N.E. fully comply with the requirement for 5-feet of side yard.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> BZA Case 19818, "D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs' Response to Intervenor's Statement" at page 3.

#### **Certificate of Service**

I certify that on December 16, 2018, I served Intervenor's Response to "DCRA's Response to Intervenor's Statement" and related exhibits via electronic mail to:

DCRA Office of Zoning 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street N.W., Suite 220-S Washington, D.C. 20001 Service via: <u>bzasubmissions@dc.gov</u>

Adrianne Lord-Sorensen D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs 1100 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20024 Service via: <u>Adrianne.lord-sorensen@dc.gov</u>

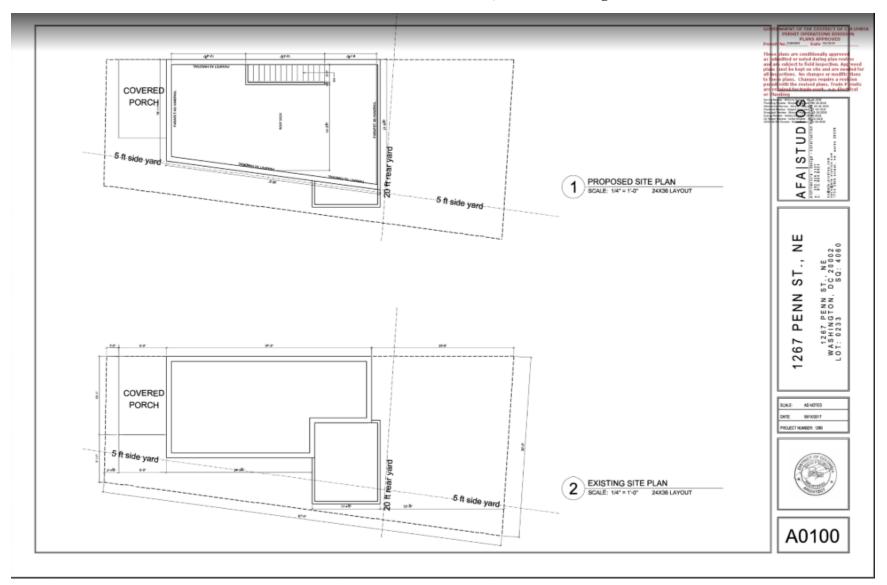
1267 Penn Street NE LLC 8855 Annapolis Road Suite 205 Lanham, MD 20706 Service via: reginaldrileyjr@gmail.com

Martin Sullivan Sullivan & Barros, LP 1155 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 1003 Service via: <u>msullivan@sullivanbarros.com</u>

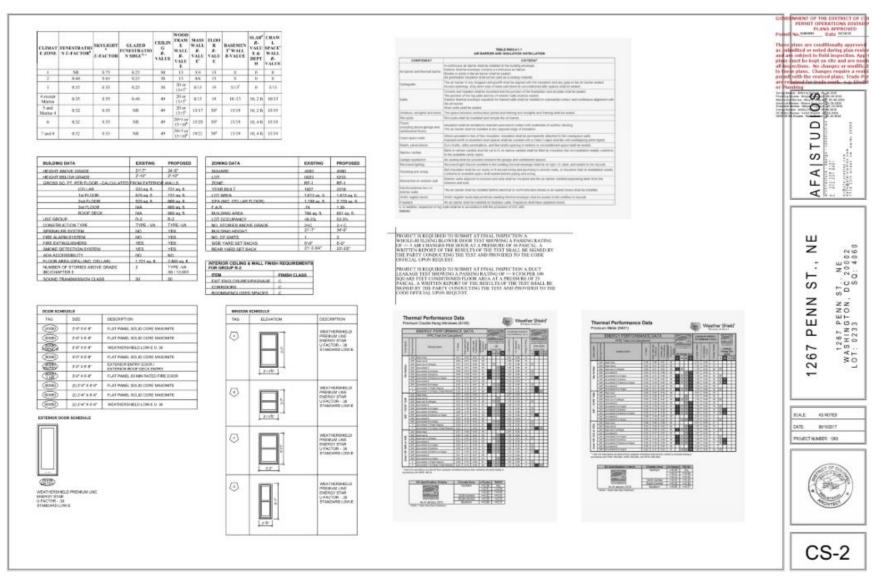
Stephen Cobb 1269 Penn Street N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002 Service via: <u>sacobbva@gmail.com</u>

Clarence Lee Chairperson ANC 5D Service via email: <u>5D@anc.dc.gov</u> and <u>5D07@anc.dc.gov</u>

> /s/ Shelby Telle Shelby Telle Intervenor BZA Case 19818 (727)656-0401 shelbytelle@gmail.com



Attachment A- Architectural Plan A0100, Part 2: Existing Site Plan



#### Attachment B- Architectural Plan CS-2 (portions reprinted below):

# Attachment B Continued-

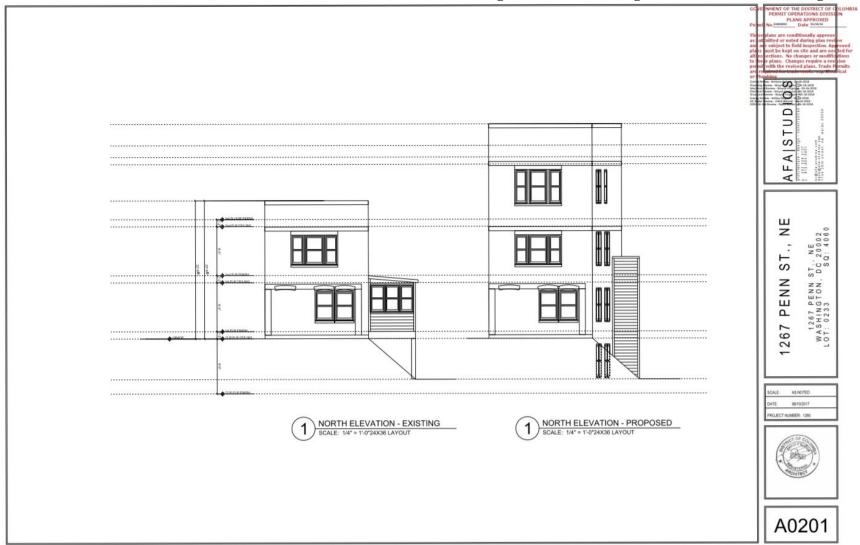
# Architectural Plan CS-2 enlarged for viewing:

BUILDING DATA	EXISTING	PROPOSED
HEIGHT ABOVE GRADE	21'-7*	34'-6"
HEIGHT BELOW GRADE	2'-10"	2'-10"
GROSS SQ. FT. PER FLOOR - CALCULATE	D FROM EXTERIO	R WALLS
CELLAR	523 sq. ft.	731 sq. ft
1st FLOOR	675 sq. ft.	731 sq. ft.
2nd FLOOR	523 sq. ft.	689 sq. ft.
3rd FLOOR	N/A	689 sq. ft.
ROOF DECK	N/A	689 sq. ft
USE GROUP	R-3	R-2
CONSTRUCTION TYPE	TYPE - VA	TYPE -VA
SPRINKLER SYSTEM	NO	YES
FIRE ALARM SYSTEM	NO	YES
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS	YES	YES
SMOKE DETECTION SYSTEM	YES	YES
ADA ACCESSIBILITY	NO	NO
FLOOR AREA (GFA) (INC. CELLAR)	1,721 sq. ft.	2,840 sq. ft.
NUMBER OF STORIES ABOVE GRADE IBC/CHAPTER 5	2	TYPE -VA 3S / 12,000
SOUND TRANSMISSION CLASS	50	50

ZONING DATA	EXISTING	PROPOSED
SQUARE:	4060	4060
LOT:	0023	0233
ZONE:	RF-1	RF-1
YEAR BUILT	1927	2018
LOT AREA	1,613 sq. ft.	1.613 sq. ft.
GFA (NIC. CELLAR FLOOR)	1,198 sq. ft.	2,109 sq. ft.
F.A.R.	.74	1.30
BUILDING AREA	796 sq. ft.	851 sq. ft.
LOT OCCUPANCY	49.3%	53.3%
NO. STORIES ABOVE GRADE	2+C	3 + C
BUILDING HEIGHT	21'-7*	34'-6*
NO. OF UNITS	1	2
SIDE YARD SET BACKS	5'-0"	5'-0"
REAR YARD SET BACK	21'-3 3/4"	20'-3%

#### INTERIOR CEILING & WALL FINISH REQUIREMENTS

FOR GROUP R-2			
ITEM	FINISH CLASS		
EXIT ENCLOSURES/PASSAGE	C		
CORRIDORS	G		
ROOMS/ENCLOSED SPACES	C		



Attachment C- Architectural Plans A0201 and A0202 (Non-conforming structure on the righthand side in the drawings).

Attachment C Continued



8