

Burden of Proof Statement

Variance Review Standard

We believe that 1002.1 (b) relates to us directly. I, Janet Stedman, and my mother, Marjorie Hutchinson, have worked extremely hard for years in an effort to better ourselves and our community. Our restaurant is our livelihood, that's how we make a living; that's how we feed our families. All the money we had saved from working went into the purchase of 1724 N. Capitol St. NW. We purchased this building with the intent to move our business so we can have a bit more space. If we are not granted the zoning approval it would result in exceptional and undue hardship on us. My mom, myself as well as all our employees would be out of a job. my mom has been doing this work for almost 20 years, so I don't know what she would do.

For many years the area our business is located in was considered a mix use area. In 2016 the District decided to rezone the area. As a consequence two building was left out of what is considered to be the commercial zone. Our property was one of the two that was zone out.

Our business already exists in the neighborhood, so I would argue that we are already in harmony with the neighborhood. The neighbors have expressed to us that they love having our restaurant in the area. We bring diversity as well as great food at a good price. Being that we have been apart of the neighborhood for almost 20 years, we have witnessed the bad and the good. We have seen babies grown up, and teenagers become professionals. Two years ago we were given the keys to the Corridor by North Capitol Main Street. That key signify that we were the first to open a business on the North Capitol Corridor.

Our business moving next-door will not adversely affect our neighbors because it's a corner lot. Jam Dourg has always had a positive effect on the neighborhood. We have done community out reach and volunteer food as well as our services to neighborhood events. After 20 years of serving the Bloomingdale area, many of our customers have become more than just neighbors. They have become our friends and family.