

Board of Zoning Adjustment 441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Case No. 20135 of 3428 O Street, LLC

Letter in Opposition

Dear Chair Hill and Members of the Board,

I applied for “party status” as I reside near the Applicant’s property of 3428 O Street, NW. Along with many of my neighbors, I am writing to urge you to **DENY** the requested variance.

We live in a quiet residential neighborhood, and moved into these houses on that premise. However, should the very popular Call Your Mother (CYM) restaurant come into our quiet neighborhood, there will be parking, traffic, noise, litter and rodent issues which will substantially impact my property. Moreover, we believe our property values will plummet.

I simply cannot understand why they would even want to move into this location given there is no parking, no indoor or outdoor seating, and no place for trash and there are so many vacant, available sites in the proper commercial zone for them to take. In addition, the neighborhood is already served by Saxby’s which sells the same exact things. We do not need a “prepared food shop” as they are trying to label it.

I have met with Andrew Dana, the co-founder. He has promised they will be good neighbors, and I truly believe they would try to do so. However, should the variance be granted, there is no recourse and we would not be able to go back to the quiet retail shop on the corner.

The bigger problem will be the patrons that come into our quiet residential neighborhood from all over DC and beyond. Their noisemaking, illegal parking, potential littering and trespassing to sit and eat their food will be the problem, as will blocking the sidewalk with long snaking of the lines, blocking the alley where many of us have garages, and blocking the corner of 35th and O Streets so that the bus cannot make the turn. **Dana and his restaurant cannot control these patrons.** In fact, **he cannot even control his own contractors** who continue to park illegally as late as Monday October 28th as shown by the attached photos, blocking the corners with two pickup trucks. This would happen every single day, during morning rush hour and when drop off at Holy trinity and Georgetown Visitation is occurring. In addition, there will be “Uber Eats” and “Grubhub” drivers and other fast food delivery services picking up food from CYM as well as the many, many patrons.

We have zoning regulations for a reason. This variance should not be granted just because we want this restaurant to come to Georgetown. This variance should not be granted just because they have sunk costs into renovations or signing a lease. This variance should not be granted because they are organized businessmen with legal representation and are trying to push this

through, garnering most of their support from out of our area. This variance should not be granted based on a popularity contest because CYM is a famous restaurant and their investor and founder both have numerous DC contacts. This variance should not be granted based on promises to mitigate the damage to the quiet neighborhood that they cannot possibly honor or control. This variance should not be granted because people who might live close, but not close enough to suffer like those of us who do, support the restaurant. This variance should not be granted just because the students of Georgetown would love CYM to come close by their campus, and the owners want to capitalize on that proximity.

This variance should not be granted because they have no fundamental right to open this restaurant at this location, and the zoning regulations should protect us in this instance.

I urge you to deny the requested variance.

Thank you for your consideration.

MAR

Melinda Roth

3418 O Street NW as well as a garage separately deeded in the alley off 35th Street (both properties within 200 feet of the proposed restaurant)



