

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Board of Zoning Adjustment**



**Application No. 20209 of Uzoma Ogbuokiri**, as amended, pursuant to 11 DCMR Subtitle X, Chapter 9, for special exceptions under Subtitle D § 5201 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle D § 304.1, from the side yard requirements of Subtitle D § 206.7, and under Subtitle U § 253.10 from the accessory apartment requirements of Subtitle U § 253.7(c), to construct a 3-story rear addition to an existing semi-detached principal dwelling unit in the R-2 Zone at premises 7521 9th Street, N.W. (Square 2961, Lot 18).

**HEARING DATES:** March 11 and June 17, 2020<sup>1</sup>

**DECISION DATE:** June 24, 2020

**SUMMARY ORDER**

Relief Requested. The zoning relief requested in this case was self-certified, pursuant to 11 DCMR Subtitle Y § 300.6. (Exhibit 42 (Revised); Exhibit 4 (Original)<sup>2</sup>.)

Notice of the Application and Public Hearing. The Board of Zoning Adjustment ("Board" or "BZA") referred the application to the appropriate agencies and provided proper and timely notice of the public hearing in accordance with Subtitle Y § 402.1.

Parties. The parties to this case were the Applicant and Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC") 4B.

ANC Report. The ANC's report indicated that at a regularly scheduled, properly noticed public meeting on April 27, 2020, at which a quorum was present, the ANC voted to support the application. (Exhibit 38.) ANC 4B Commissioner Evan Yeats testified on behalf of the ANC at the public hearing in support of the application.

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<sup>1</sup> This application was originally scheduled for public hearing on March 11, 2020 but was postponed to April 1, 2020 at the request of the ANC. The April 1, 2020 hearing was rescheduled for a virtual public hearing on June 17, 2020 based on the closures and postponements related to the public health emergency declared on March 11, 2020. Notice of the virtual public hearing was provided to the parties and to the property owners within 200 feet of the subject property.

<sup>2</sup> The application was amended to add special exception relief from side yard requirements of Subtitle D § 206.7 and a request for waiver from Subtitle U § 253.7(c).

**BZA APPLICATION NO. 20209**  
**PAGE NO. 2**

OP Report. The Office of Planning (“OP”) submitted a report recommending approval of the amended application. (Exhibit 55.) OP submitted an initial report indicating that it could not yet make a recommendation on the application, as more information was required. (Exhibit 37.)

DDOT Report. The District Department of Transportation submitted a report indicating that it had no objection to the application. (Exhibit 29.)

Persons in Opposition. The Board received eight letters in opposition to the application and a petition in opposition signed by 34 individuals. (Exhibits 33, 46-48, 51-54, and 58.) Two neighbors, Andre Carley and Sara Green, testified in opposition at the public hearing.

**Special Exception Relief**

The Applicant seeks relief under Subtitle X § 901.2, for special exceptions under Subtitle D § 5201 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle D § 304.1, from the side yard requirements of Subtitle D § 206.7, and under Subtitle U § 253.10 from the accessory apartment requirements of Subtitle U § 253.7(c), to construct a 3-story rear addition to an existing semi-detached principal dwelling unit in the R-2 Zone.

Based upon the record before the Board, and having given great weight to the appropriate reports and recommendations filed in this case, the Board concludes that the Applicant has met the burden of proof that the requested relief can be granted as being in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations and Map and that granting the requested relief will not tend to affect adversely the use of neighboring property in accordance with the Zoning Regulations and Map. The Board further concludes that, pursuant to Subtitle X § 901.2(c), any other specified conditions for special exception relief have been met.

Pursuant to 11 DCMR Subtitle Y § 604.3, the order of the Board may be in summary form and need not be accompanied by findings of fact and conclusions of law where granting an application when there was no party in opposition.

It is therefore **ORDERED** that this application is hereby **GRANTED** and, pursuant to Subtitle Y § 604.10, subject to the **APPROVED PLANS**<sup>3</sup> at **EXHIBIT 43**.

**VOTE: 4-0-1** (Frederick L. Hill, Lorna L. John, Carlton E. Hart, and Robert E. Miller to APPROVE; one Board seat vacant.)

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<sup>3</sup> Self-certification: In granting the certified relief, the Board made no finding that the relief is either necessary or sufficient. Instead, the Board expects the Zoning Administrator to undertake a thorough and independent review of the building permit and certificate of occupancy applications filed for this project and to deny any application for which additional or different zoning relief is needed.

**BY ORDER OF THE D.C. BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT**

A majority of the Board members approved the issuance of this order.

**ATTESTED BY:**

  
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**SARA A. BARDIN**  
**Director, Office of Zoning**

**FINAL DATE OF ORDER:** July 7, 2020

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR SUBTITLE Y § 604.11, NO ORDER OF THE BOARD SHALL TAKE EFFECT UNTIL TEN (10) DAYS AFTER IT BECOMES FINAL PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE Y § 604.7.

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR SUBTITLE Y § 702.1, THIS ORDER SHALL NOT BE VALID FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS AFTER IT BECOMES EFFECTIVE UNLESS, WITHIN SUCH TWO-YEAR PERIOD, THE APPLICANT FILES PLANS FOR THE PROPOSED STRUCTURE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING A BUILDING PERMIT, OR THE APPLICANT FILES A REQUEST FOR A TIME EXTENSION PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE Y § 705 PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND THE REQUEST IS GRANTED. PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE Y § 703.14, NO OTHER ACTION, INCLUDING THE FILING OR GRANTING OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO SUBTITLE Y §§ 703 OR 704, SHALL TOLL OR EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD.

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR SUBTITLE Y § 604, APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE APPROVAL OF THE PLANS SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE (OR ADDITION THERETO) OR THE RENOVATION OR ALTERATION OF AN EXISTING BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. AN APPLICANT SHALL CARRY OUT THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, OR ALTERATION ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLANS APPROVED BY THE BOARD AS THE SAME MAY BE AMENDED AND/OR MODIFIED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE D.C. HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 1977, AS AMENDED, D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 2-1401.01 *ET SEQ.* (ACT), THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED: RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, AGE, MARITAL STATUS, PERSONAL APPEARANCE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, FAMILIAL STATUS, FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES, MATRICULATION, POLITICAL AFFILIATION, GENETIC INFORMATION, DISABILITY, SOURCE OF INCOME, OR

**BZA APPLICATION NO. 20209**  
**PAGE NO. 4**

PLACE OF RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS. SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS A FORM OF SEX DISCRIMINATION WHICH IS PROHIBITED BY THE ACT. IN ADDITION, HARASSMENT BASED ON ANY OF THE ABOVE PROTECTED CATEGORIES IS PROHIBITED BY THE ACT. DISCRIMINATION IN VIOLATION OF THE ACT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. VIOLATORS WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.