

Madame Chair and Members of the Zoning Commission.

My name is Frank Gordon and I am the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for ANC3E-05. I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of this application.

I think the Stonebridge plan is an excellent plan. It represents smart growth at its best by putting appropriate density at a transit hub and commercial center. The plan balances increased density with substantial community amenities and benefits, including a half-acre of open space as a buffer to the neighborhood.

And Stonebridge, to its credit, actively sought community input in the plan and incorporated many positive elements as a result. The plan before you today is as good as it is because of this community involvement and input from the Office of Planning.

The factors that led to the Office of Planning's support of this plan are compelling. This application is in conformance with the comprehensive plan, and it provides exceptional amenities and benefits to the District of Columbia, especially the provision of affordable housing. Therefore, the zoning flexibility the applicant requests should be granted.

And with respect to our ANC, I think the record speaks for itself -- that four of five commissioners think this is a good plan -- even though two of those four voted to the contrary.

I strongly urge you to approve this excellent plan.

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