

**Mrs. Ruth Barnwell  
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January 22, 2015

District of Columbia Office of Zoning  
Alabama Avenue/13th Street Tenants Coalition  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW,  
Suite 200 S  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing this letter with regards to the Alabama Avenue Revitalization Project. As a native Anacostian, I have enjoyed the historical community that resides east of the Potomac River for many years. I am a retired teacher's assistant with a limited physical disability and have lived at my current residence in good standing for over forty-five (45) years. I am also one of the original tenants currently residing in the 1309 Alabama Avenue Apartment complex and very proud to be a member of the community.

The Alabama Avenue housing corridor is a prominent and rich community which allows me easy access to local transportation, neighborhood shopping, businesses and the issues that have shaped the community for many years. I am very active in community services and a committed member of the outreach ministry at my local church. This community shares the vision of the city for revitalization for low to middle income residents by providing an opportunity to bridge the economic and social stigma of those residents living east of the river.

It is my hope that this revitalization project will rebuild a distressed property and improve the quality of life for existing residents such as myself and the surrounding communities. Moreover, this revitalization plan will be a great opportunity to create a mixed-income community that would have a constructive influence on the environmental, economic and social impacts to my household. To this end, it is my greater hope that the developer and the city will give first priority to existing residents of the 1309 Alabama Avenue Apartment complex for relocation to the revitalized property. I have also enclosed some questions of my concern to this letter.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am hopeful that the committee will come to the same determination as I have.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruth Barnwell". The script is cursive and fluid.

RUTH BARNWELL

Enclosure (1)

## **QUESTIONS OF CONCERN**

1. Is there a relocation plan in place for current residents?
2. Will I get assistance with relocation and moving related expenses?
3. What other specific services will be available to me prior and during the relocation process?
4. When I move into a new relocation will my rent change?
5. Where will I live while the property is under construction?
6. Will the developer and city ensure that my temporary residence will be a safe environment?
7. Will the temporary residence be inspected to ensure that it meets established city housing regulations and standards?
8. How long will I be living in my temporary residence?
9. Will there be restrictions regarding the residents' return to the property?
10. How can I get involved in the relocation planning process?

Enclosure (1)