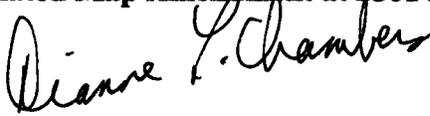


Case #13-14 (Vision McMillan Partners LLC and the District of Columbia—First Stage and Consolidated PUD and Related Map Amendment at 2501 First Street, NW (Square 3128, Lot 800)).



Greetings Chairman Hood, and Members of the Zoning Commission,

My name is Dianne Chambers and I am a resident of Ward 1. I live in the 400 block of Irving St North West My home is in the Park View neighborhood, just North West of the McMillan Sand Filtration site I am here to express my support for the McMillan redevelopment project submitted by the Vision McMillan Partners

My husband and I have lived in Park View for 5 years We moved to the District from Silver Spring, and we chose our house because of its historic charm, friendly neighbors, and easy access to public transportation. We also enjoy all of the amenities that a vibrant city provides We knew that we were moving into a neighborhood that was rapidly changing and evolving. One of the things we value most is seeing new businesses open and new residences pop up, even as older homes are being preserved.

I have reviewed the plans proposed by the Vision McMillan partners and I would like to state that I think the plans will provide a tremendous benefit to our neighborhood as well the neighboring communities in Ward 5 I am impressed that the developers respect the history of the site and will preserve the structures and character. We truly value the historic character of our neighborhood just as much as we welcome 21st century amenities I think the partners are providing a balance of everything that our neighborhood needs

One of the biggest benefits is park space and recreation facilities 8 acres of park space would provide much needed green space for children and adults to enjoy the outdoors. Also, I am already an avid user of the D C. Parks and Recreation facilities and I welcome a facility that even closer to my home

Another huge benefit is the grocery store Right now we live in a food desert. The grocery stores that we have access to are only accessible by car or bus (or long walk) While we have a car and are able to drive to the store, some of neighbors may find this to be a hardship. We have corner stores that fill a partial need, but there is very limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables, and healthy food at a reasonable price. A grocery store within walking distance will fill a need for many residents.

My husband and I also utilize the services at Washington Hospital Center. The hospital and surrounding medical facilities provide excellent care, and I am sure the addition of medical buildings on the site of McMillan will provide added value

Another benefit is the building of additional homes and apartments, as well as residences for seniors. Our city population is increasing – there are many new young families and we also have a senior population that is need of housing and services New, affordable housing will be a welcome benefit

Something else I would like to mention is jobs. The creation and maintenance of this development will bring much needed employment to many people in our city. This is especially true of our younger citizens who are in need of employment, and skilled workers who have been out of work for some time.

What I am most looking forward to is having a community that is even more walkable I understand there have been concerns about traffic congestion regarding the development However, I feel that the development will encourage more people to walk Many surrounding neighborhoods will benefit from a new McMillan I feel that residents will be encouraged to leave their cars at home and walk, bike or take

public transportation just a short ride to enjoy the new facilities I also feel that the developers have addressed the questions and concerns surrounding traffic and congestion to my satisfaction.

In conclusion, I feel that any perceived drawbacks to this development are outweighed by the many benefits that it will bring. I look forward to living in my row house that was built in 1910, enjoying my neighborhood, and also utilizing the many new amenities that a new McMillan will provide.

I strongly encourage the Commission to consider supporting the plan that has been put forward by the VMP It is past time to create something in this corner of the city that will bring positive change and a new, dynamic way of life to our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time

Kind Regards,
Dianne L Chambers