

Public Testimony of
Martin R. Welles, Esq.
917 6th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024
martinwelles@lawyer.com

ZONING COMMISSION FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NOTICE OF
RESCHEDULED (continued) PUBLIC HEARING
FOR

Date and Place: December 14, @ 6:30 p.m.
Jerrily R. Kress Memorial Hearing Room
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 220-South
Washington, D.C. 20001

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING THE FOLLOWING:

CASE NO. 16-02 (DC Stadium, LLC – Consolidated Review and Approval of a Planned Unit
Development @ Squares 603S, 605, 607, 661, & 665)

Prepared: November 28, 2016

Good Evening Members of the Zoning Commission:

I support the PUD for DC Stadium at the Buzzard Point location.

I am a Southwest Community Volunteer. All the things you will hear me speak about tonight
have been done as a community activist.

I am a 16 year resident and property owner in the Southwest Waterfront Neighborhood, a parent
of 3 elementary school children at Amidon-Bowen Elementary School located in SW
Waterfront, and a civic activist for the neighborhood. My achievements include helping to
reform public education by serving on Mayor Grey's School Assignment and Boundary
Committee, Chancellor Henderson's Parent Advisory Cabinet, and working with both the
Nationals and DC United on various activities. I am the Capitol Hill Little League
Commissioner for AAA Baseball.

Public Testimony of
Martin R. Welles, Esq.
917 6th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024
martinwelles@lawyer.com

I have been active in the development of the Southwest Smaller Area plan, and have been instrumental in securing \$13 million in school improvements for Amidon-Bowen, and \$70 million for Jefferson Middle School in 2020. I was also instrumental in the successful opposition to Mayor Grey's give-away of land at Randall Park and Recreation Center to a charter high school, while working the Nationals to develop Ryan Zimmerman Field at Randall Park as a multi-use baseball/soccer field at Randall Park. I opposed construction of a 9 story mixed use building at 6th and I Street, SW (the PUD was ultimately withdrawn).

I mention this to you to establish my credibility as not someone who endorses projects or opposes projects on general principal but evaluates each project on its own. I'm in favor of the DC United Stadium at Buzzard Point.

- Having Nationals Park and DC United Stadium in close proximity to each other is a good thing in my estimation. Not only will businesses flourish from approximately 100 home games between the teams, but residents will benefit from the opportunities as well. DC residents could conceivably work at both the Nationals Park and DC United Stadiums on game days resulting in substantial employment opportunities from April to October each year.
- The synergies of two professional teams in close proximity will bring added pressure to improve infrastructure – such as transportation options to bring fans to and from the games. Residents will benefit from the increase in amenities and services. If, for example, the entire parcel were developed without a stadium, the parcel would lack the necessary crown jewel to make it a vibrant neighborhood.

Public Testimony of
Martin R. Welles, Esq.
917 6th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024
martinwelles@lawyer.com

- Buzzard Point is fallow ground and adding a stadium, along with residential and retail, turns an industrial parcel into something that can be used by residents and fans.
- DC United has been funding the elementary school soccer team at Amidon-Bowen for several years and has offered scholarships to children to attend the DC United skills camp each summer.
- DC United has been receptive to my proposal to improve Jefferson Middle School athletic field by creating a football/soccer/running track as a community benefit. (see attached).

I have found DC United to be responsive to concerns of the community, been willing to assist the neighborhood school children at Amidon-Bowen and Jefferson Middle School, and I expect those initiatives to continue with the new DC Stadium.

In closing, the DC United Stadium and Buzzard Point will be great for business and great for the local community.

