

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: SHEILA STEVENS <sheilastevens2005@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 7:50 PM
To: DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: CASE NO. 16-20 – May 4 DC Zoning Commission Hearing

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RE: CASE NO. 16-20

Chairman Anthony Hood
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th Street NE
Suite 200 South
Washington, DC 20001

CASE NO. 16-20 (3443 Benning, LLC – Consolidated PUD Application and Related Zoning Map Amendment @ Square 5017, Lots 839, 840, 841, 842 and a portion of the public alley abutting Lots 839 and 840)

Dear Chairman Anthony Hood:

My name is Sheila Stevens and I am a resident of River Terrace in Ward 7. My family has lived in River Terrace since 1950 and I have been here since 1952. My mother is now 93 we have seen too many changes made to this neighborhood that have not provided benefits to this community. We finally got Pepco to stop killing the residents with their adverse business practices, we've had a school taken away from this community with very limited access for residents to come together and now you want to infiltrate my neighborhood with only God knows who. I respectfully ask for no zoning changes from R-3 (residential 3) to MU-7 (mixed use 7) on the parcels designated by 3443 Benning, LLC/Neighborhood Development Company (NDC) for its 3450 Eads Street project due to the size of the project, the effects on the parking and population on Eads Street NE and surrounding streets, and the opposition of the neighbors most impacted by the project and the River Terrace community.

In order for a zoning designation of MU-7, the proposed project must be on an arterial street, such as Benning Road, Kenilworth Avenue or Minnesota Avenue which are the closest arterial corridors to Eads Street as required by the DC Zoning Handbook. The 3400 block of Eads Street NE is a smaller street in the community and would never qualify as an arterial street.

NDC has not facilitated adequate mitigation, site design or analysis for this project. Quite the contrary, NDC has not shown that this project's increase of density to the River Terrace community can be adequately accommodated in terms of parking, traffic, and overall transportation. The proposed building has consistently changed to shifting demographics of which none of the proposed target demographics have been researched to prove that feasibility is met. Residents of River Terrace, for whom this project is targeted, are "aging in place" in homes that he/she has paid for. This negates the need for a 500-600 sq. ft. "apartment" in the proposed building. So, we are asking, exactly who is NDC targeting for such a building and prove that it is a need in designated location). Thus far, NDC has failed to show how this project is a benefit to anyone except NDC.

River Terrace is an area of two story rowhouses and these homes are zoned as residential (R-3). Exceptions to this zoning are the two story retail establishments on Benning Road (MU-4) and the three story apartment buildings along Kenilworth Avenue/East Capitol corridor (RA-1). NDC would like to add 70 to 140 people to the population of Eads Street, NE and a five story building to a residential street. of two story buildings. A building of this magnitude is completely out of character of the other residences' height and current zoning for this community.

The project would add a potential of 20-50 cars and would make an already crowded parking situation even more difficult spilling even as far as 36th and Dix Streets. If this rezoning is approved and the planned development completed, River Terrace will witness a dramatic increase in traffic in an already congested area. NDC has failed to complete a current Comprehensive Transportation Analysis for River Terrace and it certainly cannot show that such a project will not adversely affect the River Terrace Community.

Almost every neighbors who lives within 200 feet and beyond of the property are against the project and have been since it was first introduced in April 2016. Neighbors on Eads Street, 36th Street, Benning Road and the 300 block of 34th Street and Dix Street worry about the impact of actual construction to homes in the area, parking and the impact of the added population to the street. The past and current crime reports show that a senior building will further contribute to this demographic's vulnerability.

I would ask that the Zoning Commission vote against the zoning changes proposed by 3443 Benning, LLC for the 3450 Eads Street NE project on the basis that the criteria for such zoning designation has not been met. Additionally, the site design, general analysis, mitigation and transportation analysis has not been done to prove the feasibility of this project to move forward. It is for the aforementioned reasons that the community of River Terrace in conjunction with the ANC 7D Commission is of the position to decline this project.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Sheila Stevens
3464 Dix Street N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20019
(757) 472-3834
sheilastevens2005@yahoo.com

SHEILA STEVENS

Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." (NKJV)