

December 31, 2018

Mr. Anthony Hood, Chairman
District of Columbia Zoning Commission
441 4th Street NW
Suite 210 S
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Case Number 16-23, Proposal for Design Review and Development by Valor Development, LLC, Square 1499, Lots 802, 803, 806, 807. Letter in Opposition

Chairman Hood and Commissioners:

We live in Spring Valley close to the proposed development of the Superfresh site. The developer, Valor, has made repeated unsatisfactory efforts to make their development plans more palatable to nearby neighbors. Thus far, their changes have been unsuccessful in scope and design and lack respect for the character of the neighborhood.

We appreciate the desire to develop the former Superfresh, certainly a grocery store would be a welcome addition for many of us. However, the density, size and height of the design have no context in this part of town. The added traffic on streets that have already seen an increase in traffic flow would make the environment untenable for residents both in terms of driving and walking to nearby businesses. Parking is already nearly impossible on many days at all hours thanks to new business that have opened in the recent past.


It is incomprehensible that developers appear to have a desire to build large and dense no matter what part of town they aim to develop. We appreciate the desire to increase the access to additional businesses that enhance the quality of life for residents. Increasing the population density and shadows due to unreasonably high building height will not enhance the quality of life for anyone. The development needs to be reconsidered significantly with integrity and respect for current residents.

It would be a mistake to paint all of the city with the same brush. Being the capital of the country, this beautiful nationally and internationally significant city offers many different neighborhoods for us to enjoy. Please don't try to transform every inch of Washington into the highest payoff to the promoters of development run amok. I am not alone in the value I place on peace, quiet and quality of life that is near downtown and world-class museums, architecture, restaurants and more.

Finally, please avoid the mistake of destroying the beauty of space and respect for options to live in neighborhoods that offer individuals and families different lifestyles in which to live, simply to pay developers for their grand ideas to extend downtown to the outer limits. Look around and breathe. There is no reason to duplicate Bethesda.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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