

January 3rd, 2019

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

You have an extremely important task ahead of you, as the decision rendered by the Zoning Commission in this case will not only potentially devastate the American University Park Neighborhood but will also establish a citywide benchmark for all future reviews of applications to the Voluntary Design Review process.

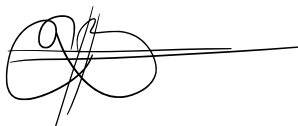
Over the past few arduous years, we, the neighbors, the ones who would actually have to live with the project that is being reviewed, have been pushed to the sidelines. Through misrepresentation, distortions of truth, and deceit on the part of the applicant, our voices have been minimized. Our opinions and needs have been given very little weight, indeed, in every venue but that of your office.

In considering the viability of the proposed project, I ask you to consider: Is respecting existing neighborhood character and the surrounding property owners' rights to privacy and quiet enjoyment as critical as the developer's unit yield and profit? Is pedestrian safety and minimizing sound and air pollution as important as an overpriced, specialty food market "anchor" tenant catering to a select few?

In sum, will you support a neighborhood that has existed for a century and protect it from an irreversible and fundamentally negative change in nature? Or will you protect Valor's, Regency Centers', and American University's bottom lines?

I respectfully ask that you give our voices the substantial weight they deserve and reject Valor's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Eli Borek', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Eli Borek