

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Bardin, Sara (DCOZ)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 9, 2020 10:32 AM  
**To:** DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Subject:** Fw: Carver Langston zoning map amendment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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### Sara Bardin

Director

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**From:** Matthew Yglesias <[myglesias@gmail.com](mailto:myglesias@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 9, 2020 9:53 AM  
**To:** ATD DCOZ <[dcoz@dc.gov](mailto:dcoz@dc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Carver Langston zoning map amendment

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I'm writing to express my severe concern about the proposed map amendment in the Carver Langston neighborhood that the Zoning Commission is considering on September 17.

My view is that affordable housing is currently a significant problem in the District of Columbia, and that while reasonable people can disagree on the details of affordable housing policy in general if we have more housing rather than less housing that will contribute to improving the affordability situation. Conversely, if we have less housing rather than more housing that will exacerbate the problem. Similarly, due to the Covid-19 pandemic the District is currently experiencing elevated unemployment and budgetary problems. If we have more housebuilding that will tend to ameliorate both of those problems whereas if we have less housebuilding it will tend to exacerbate them.

Given that I have never heard a DC elected or appointed official deny that housing affordability is important or that job creation would be good, it is mildly mystifying to me that a proposal along these lines would even be considered by the Zoning Commission. We should be debating the merits of different proposals to increase the pace of housebuilding in DC and laughing out of the room any proposal that would in any way curtail it.

I do appreciate that some residents of the neighborhood feel that it is unfair so that so much construction activity is occurring in neighborhoods like theirs while wealthier neighborhoods in the western part of the city are largely untouched by new housing. That's a very valid concern and it seems to me that the Zoning Commission should be spending its time considering proposals to increase the pace at which new homes are added to Wards 1, 2, and especially 3 — i.e., proposals that would ameliorate serious problems in the city — rather than spending time considering ideas like this map amendment that would only make things worse.

Sincerely,  
Matthew Yglesias  
1315 Riggs Street NW

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