

To: Zoning Commission
Suite 210-S
414 4th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

RE: 1333 M Street SE PUD Application; Zoning Commission Case 20-06

Dear Sirs:

Here are my GENERAL COMMENTS:

In your review of the PUD for 1333 M St SE, please support a most important public benefit for our community—the development of an Adult Day Center with Memory Care. We do not have such a capability in our part of the city. We need this very badly. I was pleased to learn my ANC’s Planning and Zoning Committee voted, overwhelmingly, to support the proposal for “Friends of Capitol Hill Adult Day Center.”

Some have asked “Why from this PUD?” My response is Why not?? The developer is asking to build a massive apartment house/retail space structure close to the bank of a river that continues to become more lovely as environmental issues are resolved. If allowed to do this, the developer should provide a meaningful public benefit to the community. Providing a monetary contribution for the planning for a needed for an Adult Day Center is small potatoes compared to the benefits the developer will reap.

My husband and I have lived on Kentucky Avenue SE for 57 years. We love our community and are happy that we have aged in place. However, we need more help now. There are an increasing number of elderly residents on Capitol Hill like us. Thank goodness for the services and programs of Capitol Hill Village which are helping us stay in our home rather than move to senior housing outside the District.

From my own experience and that of family members and friends, I know about the need for Adult Day services. We know about what Iona Senior Services provides, but it is not easily available to those who live near us.

There are two groups that concern me. First and foremost are those who need services at such a center to prevent being isolated and trapped in their homes. Most of those cannot take care of themselves but need help with what is called Assistance with Daily Living activities (ADLs). They need appropriate activities, exercise, and most of all socializing.

The second group who needs these services are the *caregivers*. I know primary caregivers--spouses, partners, children—who are unable to leave an elderly person alone at home. Thus, they must find a friend to stay with the elderly individual or hire a paid care giver if they need to run an errand. Also, having a safe place for their loved one to go at least one or more days a week allows for a break from what can be a 24/7 duty.

Most caregivers are devoted to their loved ones knowing they would prefer to live at home rather than in an institution. I am especially pleased this center proposed for Ward 6 will be for families at all income levels.

Please support the inclusion of the community benefit that will fund the “Friends of the Capitol Hill Adult Day Center.”

Hazel Kreinheder
113 Kentucky Ave SE
Washington, DC 20003
September 5, 2020