

04/09/21

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 200S
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Statement in Support of PUD Application - Zoning Case Number 20-27

Dear Members of the Zoning Commission:

My name is Shalini Sitzmann. I live at 1509 Marion Street NW and have lived there for 9 years with my husband and daughter. I support the PUD application by High Street District Development, Inc. (the "Developer"), for the Project at 7th & P Streets, NW.


For the 15 years we have lived in the neighborhood we waited in anticipation of this lot being redeveloped. Once a week we circle the property picking up empty beer cans and liquor bottles. Once a week we watch out our windows at the flashing lights of an ambulance taking another unresponsive person from the lot to the hospital. Drug dealing on the edge of the lot goes on every single day, rain or shine. Development has come to every other corner and yet this property sits empty. Our daughter is 10 and I fear for her safety in the presence of such danger.

I find the rendering provided by High Street Development to be quite beautiful — a building worthy of this prominent corner. It's tall on 7th Street, as it should be. But it steps down nicely to Marion Street. Is it a little taller than our rowhouses? Yes, but we live directly across from the development and I think it is going to tuck our little row of houses in quite nicely when it's complete. We live too close to downtown and the denser urban core to not erect a building on this site that maximizes the space.

We love our neighbors at Bread for the City. And we're excited to have a mix of affordable units in this new development. Additionally, the developer is not displacing any existing businesses or residents. It is our understanding that the barber shop will continue to operate and will be included within the new project at a reduced rent.

I appreciate how engaged the developer has been with the community. In its current iteration, I am proud to support the project and request the Zoning Commission approve the Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shalini Sitzmann DO". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shalini Sitzmann
1509 Marion Street NW
Washington DC 20001