

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** Ethan Pirk <ethan@wilsonpirk.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 20, 2022 10:14 AM  
**To:** DCOZ - ZC Submissions (DCOZ)  
**Cc:** Ethan Pirk  
**Subject:** Submission of testimony for Zoning Commission Round Table Case 22-RT1

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To: DC Zoning Commission/Board of Zoning Adjustment  
Re: Submission of testimony for Zoning Commission Round Table Case 22-RT1

Although I am not able to testify in person, I want my written testimony on record.

The draft of the Zoning Commission's Racial Equity Tool is inadequate in several areas. It needs to be more specific and more substantive in order to right so many wrongs of the past. If the language about the Racial Equity Tool is not specific, zoning decisions will lead to more inequitable outcomes.

Let's join cities like Boston and New York and our neighbors like Montgomery County in creating a process that will make DC an example for other cities so that this systemic inequality can stop.

The Racial Equity Tool that ZC uses needs to require:

- Community engagement early in the development process
- A tool to assess displacement risk
- Consideration of people with disabilities and those who are natives of DC, many who have lived here for generations
- Admission that the city has not had racial equity in the past and that it needs to specifically address how development is affecting the Black and Brown lives of our citizens and how that can be changed
- NO more business as usual. Inequitable development in the past should change now.

DC has had historic segregation and inequitable practices in the past and the Zoning Commission now has the opportunity to put in writing that this must change. Use a strong Racial Equity Tool to make this happen.

Thank you,  
Ethan Pirk  
Ward 3

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Ethan Pirk  
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