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**Subject:** ZC Case 23-02: Opposition to the incompatible 1617 U Street rezoning  
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Dear Zoning Commissioners,

I am grateful to have an opportunity to have my voice heard by the zoning commission. What I don't understand is why hearing the voice of the residents on what happens to this public land hasn't come first. The Office of Planning has already made its plans and the Zoning Commission will now seal those plans by allowing the building to look down on our neighborhood. That's not a democratic process for a city that wants homerule. How we build and what we build is important. Development has changed the face of DC. The luxury apartments with their poor doors have had an hopefully unintended socioeconomic and racial effect that's put wealthier white residents at the top and people of color in service jobs barely able to live in the city at the bottom. Heat Islands in the form of office and residential structures fry the city. Property tax go up as well as the price of everything else. Older residents can no longer afford to live in a community they planned to stay in and some younger 20 to 30 something people can't afford to live without numerous roommates.

It baffles me why the Office of Planning isn't using this opportunity to make this city a leader in Community Policing. Building a badly needed Community Policing station that will bring the law enforcement and the community together. You want to bring the crime down? That's the missing link! Start at the 3rd District on the land at 1617 U St. NW and use the model that's developed to change the city! Don't build another luxury apartment! Adams Morgan was famous for its diversity now it's almost all white. Encourage affordable housing by giving the land to Jubilee Housing or another source that knows how to do it right.

My family purchased our home on U St. NW in 1913. It's noisy, polluted and crowded now. Please don't make this worse with another huge glass heat reflecting structure where the richest among us steal the light and get the best view of the city at the expense of a long standing community of smaller architecture.

Thank you for your time!

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