GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ZONING COMMISSION

VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING

VIA WEBEX

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

The Public Meeting by the District of Columbia Zoning Commission convened via videoconference pursuant to notice at 4:00 p.m. EDT, Anthony Hood, Chairperson, presiding.

ZONING COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

ANTHONY J. HOOD, Chairperson ROBERT MILLER, Vice Chairperson JOSEPH S. IMAMURA, Commissioner TAMMY STIDHAM, Commissioner

OFFICE OF ZONING STAFF PRESENT:

SHARON SCHELLIN, Secretary PAUL YOUNG, Data Specialist

OFFICE OF ZONING LEGAL DIVISION STAFF PRESENT:

HILLARY LOVICK, Esquire JACOB RITTING, Esquire DENNIS LIU, Esquire

This transcript constitutes the minutes from the Public Meeting held on November 9, 2023.

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1200 K Street I Co., LLC & K Street II Co., LLC -

Motion to Extinguish PUD

1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(4:00 p.m.)
3	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Good afternoon, ladies and
4	gentlemen.
5	We are convening and broadcasting this public
6	meeting by videoconferencing. My name is Anthony Hood,
7	joined by Vice Chair Miller, Commissioner Stidham, and
8	Commissioner Imamura.
9	We are also joined by the Office of Zoning's
LO	Staff, Ms. Sharon Schellin and Mr. Paul Young, who will be
L1	handling all of our virtual operations, and also our Office
L2	of Zoning legal division, Mr. Lovick, I'm sorry, Ms. Lovick,
L3	Mr. Ritting. I'd already moved to Mr. Ritting before I
L4	could call Ms but anyway, let me start all over. Ms.
L5	Lovick, Mr. Ritting, and Mr. Liu.
L6	I will ask all others to introduce themselves in
L7	and when they are, if needed. Copies of today's meeting
L8	agenda are available on the Office of Zoning's website.
L9	Please be advised that this proceeding is being
20	recorded by a court reporter and also webcast live Webex and
21	YouTube live. The video will be available in the Office of

recorded by a court reporter and also webcast live Webex and YouTube live. The video will be available in the Office of Zoning's website after the meeting. Accordingly, all those listening on Webex or by phone will be muted during the meeting unless the Commission suggests otherwise.

For hearing action items the only documents before

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    us this evening are the application, the ANC set down
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    report, and the Office of Planning report. All other
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    documents in the record will be reviewed at the time of the
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    hearing.
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              Again, we do not take any public testimony in our
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    meetings unless the Commission requests someone to speak.
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    If you experience difficulty accessing Webex with your phone
    call-in, then please call our OZ hotline number at (202)
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    727-0789 for Webex or login or call-in instructions.
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              At this time, before I go to the -- Ms. Schellin,
    I will bring up a preliminary matter. We want to wish Ms.
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    Schellin a happy birthday tomorrow. I think I have that
    right. Okay. We want to wish her a happy --
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Correct, yes, Semper Fi.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We want to thank her -- when we
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    were together, we would always have a cake. She would
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    always make sure we all had cakes and everything, but we'll
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    show you our appreciation. We want to know -- want you to
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    know we hope you have a great day tomorrow, and go out and
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    eat some crabs, and hopefully you'll be hearing from us
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    soon. So thank you very much and -- for all you do.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Thank you, guys.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And happy birthday.
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              All right. Now, let's go. Ms. Schellin, do we
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have any preliminary matters?

1 MS. SCHELLIN: No preliminary matters. 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Let's go to the first case. Give me one moment. Final action, Zoning 3 Commission case number 23-06, Blue Ridge 1515 9th Street, 4 5 LLC - Map Amendment at Square 397. Ms. Schellin. MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. At Exhibit 79, 79-A, you 6 7 have the applicant's cover letter with a draft order. Exhibit 80 is an NCPC report where NCPC filed a letter 8 9 stating that the proposal is not inconsistent with the comp 10 plan and would not adversely affect any identified federal interest. So this case is ready for the Commission to 11 12 consider final action. Thank you. 13 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Mr. Chairman, you're on 14 mute. CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I don't, I don't do that very 15 Thank you. So thank you, Commissioner Imamura. 16 often. 17 Just to refresh our memories, this is a case that we heard as stated, I think it was July the 31st, was our 18 19 public hearing, and this -- the property consists of 20 approximately 8,057 square feet of land located in ANC 2G, and I believe ANC 2G weighed in. They weighed in in 21 22 support. 23 And it's -- bound on Lang Street (sic), Northwest 24 to the west and, and the coordinates -- the property is 25 located within the southern portion of Shaw neighborhood and

falls within the boundaries of the Shaw historic district.

And one of the things that we, we spoke about already, that we've talked about, we talked about the outreach to opponents as requested by the Commission at the conclusion of the hearing. That was done. The proposed MUB zoning is more appropriate than the ME-5A because the proposed ME 5B zone will allow for additional affordable housing. I think the Commission came up with that.

Then MU -- well, we've been advised that that MU-4 was not appropriate for the site because it is inconsistent with the FLUM. The applicant that's -- we -- the applicant also -- the Commission agreed with applicant about the small area plan. It shows that the property is not very finegrained, therefore it's not true that the applicant was mischaracterizing it as one that has been stated. I think we all went along with that.

And, and then the development of the property with the taller building may affect neighborhood character was one of the things that we dealt with, but we was justified given comprehensive other plan policies that support additional housing and affordable housing.

Then also, I think there was mention of generation pressures on the neighborhood, development of additional housing and affordable housing permitted by the rezoning would help to address gentrification, the exact opposite of

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    what was discussed, mentioned to us previously. And we, we
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    -- the applicant has made efforts and promised to continue
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    to help relocate the daycare facility on the site. And
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    again, this, this as we noted, that IZ+ will apply to this
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    map amendment.
              So I think I, think I teed it up best I could, and
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    I, I'm going to go to Commissioner Imamura if he has any
    additional or anything else.
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              COMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, no
    additional comments. I think your summary was spot on, so,
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    you know, this seems ripe for final action in my view, and
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    I'm prepared to support and am in agreement. You know, I'm
    always a little cautious about making sure that, that we've
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    got the appropriate zone, and here it seems to be pretty
    straightforward that we're in a transit rich site and that
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    the MU-5B is appropriate for this.
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              So I'm prepared to vote in support and have
    nothing additional to add to your summary, Mr. Chairman.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Commissioner
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    Imamura.
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              Commissioner Stidham.
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              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM:
                                      I agree. It, it seems very
    straightforward and I'm prepared to support as well.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And Vice Chair Miller.
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VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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I concur with all of your comments and those of my
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    colleagues, Commissioners Imamura and Stidham. And, you
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    know, as I said, a proposed action, this case largely a comp
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    plan consistency case, and the medium density future land
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    use map designation does justify the MU-5A -- the MU-5B
    zoning, as opposed to the existing MU-5A or some alternative
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    zoning, and will support all the -- as you've said, Mr.
    Chairman, the comp plan strong policies promoting additional
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    housing and affordable housing.
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              So I'm prepared. And we have the AN -- as you
    said, the ANC support, Office of Planning support, which we
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    gave great weight to. Thank you.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you.
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              Commissioner Imamura, would you make the motion,
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    please?
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              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA:
                                     Sure thing, Mr. Chairman.
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    I move that the Zoning Commission take final action on Case
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    Number 23-06, Blue Ridge 1515 9th Street, LLC Map Amendment
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    Square 397, and ask for a second.
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              VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Second.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So moved and properly
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    second.
              VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I defer to Commissioner
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    Stidham.
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CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. It's moved by

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Commissioner Imamura, second by Commissioner Stidham, moved
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    and properly second. Any further discussion?
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              Not hearing any, Ms. Schellin, would you do a roll
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    call vote, please?
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Commissioner Imamura?
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              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA:
                                      Yes.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Stidham?
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Hood?
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Miller?
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              COMMISSIONER MILLER: Yes.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: The vote is four to zero to one to
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    approve final action in Zoning Commission case number 23-06,
    the minus one being the third mayoral appointee seat, which
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    is vacant. Thank you.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. This next case, we'll
    call both of them together, Zoning Commission case number
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    23-08, Wesley Theological Seminary of United Methodist
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    Church - First Stage PUD at Square 1600, Lot 6, and then
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    Zoning Commission case number 23-08(1), Wesley Theological
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    Seminary of the United Methodist Church - Campus Plan at
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    Square 1600, Lot 6 (818 & 819) 7, 8, and 9.
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              Ms. Schellin.
              MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. There are quite a few
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exhibits since the hearing, and so we have the applicant's

draft proffers and conditions at Exhibit 56 in the PUD case,

Exhibit 47 in the campus plan, the revised proffers and

conditions at Exhibit 59 in the PUD case.

- The NLC, the, the party in opposition, their draft or rather response to the draft proffers and conditions are at Exhibit 57 and 48, and then the revised proffers, their responses at Exhibit 64 and 54, and then their response to the applicant's revised proffers again at Exhibits 65 and 55.
- So then we move onto the applicant's post-hearing submission at Exhibits 58 and 49, respectively. Then we have ANC 3E's closing statement, which -- or I don't think they meant to call it a closing statement, but -- because they're not entitled to a closing statement, but Exhibits 60 and 50, respectively.
- And then you have NLC's response to the applicant's post-hearing statement at Exhibits 61 and 51, respectively. And then NLC's proposed or draft order at Exhibits 62 and 52, respectively, and the applicant's proposed order at Exhibits 63 and 53.
- And this -- these cases are ready for the Commission to consider final action. Thank you.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you. I want to

 just ask the public's indulgence. We're going to talk about

this. We're going to talk through this, and it might sound confusing at the time, because even talking about it and thinking about it and reviewing it, it gets confusing at times. So I want to just, just ask for your indulgence.

Just to rehash, the relief sought or requested by the applicant -- and I want to talk about the campus plan portion first.

It was review and approval of zoning relief requests required for Wesley campus plan to thrive in place, and then the PUD part of it was a first stage PUD for the entire Wesley Seminary campus, a consolidated PUD for a new dormitory to house Wesley and American University students, and then relief and flexibility from the IZ program requirements and area branch from the height setback standards for the new dormitory and flexibility from the validity period for first stage PUD and consolidated PUD.

One of the things -- we've asked for a few things, and let me go back. Let me just try to run that list.

A few things that we asked for that we heard the applicant's presentation, requested, requested the follow (sic) additional information from the applicant, clarification from DHCD after its views on the likely success of the proposed affordable student bed program and draft affordable housing covenant with DHCD, a response of DOEE's, Department of Energy and Environment's

recommendation to utilize net zero design standards, a

detailed roof plan, including any sustainable features such

as green roof and solar panels. I will definitely be

leaning on Commissioner Imamura for that.

Consider appointing an ombudsman to monitor validation of the proposed affordable student bed program, and then data showing what number of District residents would be prioritized and how many Wesley and AU students are existing D.C. residents. We received that information.

A response to the opposition's party -- party's PowerPoint presentation.

The Commission -- we also heard from the government agencies DDOT and OAH proceeding, and requested the following from OP: Clarification BACD (phonetic) about his views, and then a status update on the pedestrian connection between the AU and Wesley campus.

Then the Commission heard testimony from ANC 3E and 3E was in opposition to the application. ANC 3E urged the Commission to deny the application because of perceived flaws with the Wesley proposal affordable student bed program, including uncertainty about BACD's ability to oversee it and the lack of enforceability.

And then, then we talked about the new dorm is not a dormitory or a residential -- it was claimed that the new dorm is not a dormitory or residential use, but a form of

commercial housing whose primary benefit to Wesley is
revenue generation. The PUD's public benefits and amenities
are inadequate and do not primarily benefit the residents of
ANC 3E. Wesley should increase its affordable set aside
from approximately 10 percent of total beds to 15 percent.

And then the new dorm would create objectionable impacts,

And then the new dorm would create objectionable impacts, such as excessive parking and noise.

ANC 3E requested mitigation measures, including funding for Capital Bikeshare stations, covered bike share parking, bus shelters, and TransitScreen.

Commission heard testimony also from ANC 3D and these Spring Valley Neighbors Association, who were in support of the application as presented.

Then we had comments from the Neighbors for
Livable Community and the Spring Valley Wesley Heights
Citizens Association. The opposition argued the following:
The new dorm is not a dormitory. Wesley has not provided
sufficient data on its student enrollment to show they can
fully occupy the 70 affordable beds that are being proposed.
The new dorm will result in objectionable impacts due to its
excessive height and density. And then overall the PUD is
inconsistent with the character of Wesley's campus and will
set, set a bad precedent for campus plans elsewhere. The
Commission is effectively writing the campus plan
regulations without the public hearing or text amendment,

- and then Wesley has not proposed any meaningful public
 benefits or amenities and most of what is afforded -offered are mitigation measures. None of the benefits are
 targeted to ANC 3E.
- The Commission heard testimony from various
 individuals and organizations of opposition who raised the
 following issues: New dorm would create -- be
 objectionable. The proposed affordable student bed program
 is inherently flawed.
 - The Commission heard the applicant's rebuttal and the ANC 3E's, NLC, Spring Valley Wesley Heights Citizen

 Association cross on rebuttal. The applicant stated it would file its closing statement in the written submission, which has been done.

- All right. I think, you know, nobody's going to remember all that, but I did that for the record, and let's just kind of break it down. And I want to start off with Vice Chair Miller, whichever one you want to talk about, the PUD, the campus plan portion, whichever one. However you want to start it, I will -- we'll adjust. Vice Chair Miller.
- VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank you. I think, Mr. Chairman, I'll try to be somewhat coherent here. This is a -- we're at final action, right, on a -- which we've been at for about a year, almost, on this -- on them,

or related, the related campus plan case when there were concerns raised about how unique this, this campus plan application was, and that perhaps another process needed to be combined with it, and a suggestion was made, not directed at all by the Zoning Commission as Chairman Hood indicated at the time.

But a suggestion was made that maybe the PUD process, which had been used elsewhere with a university might be an appropriate place where we could evaluate all the benefits, amenities, and the mitigation measures and adverse impacts, and, and in conjunction with the comprehensive plan -- and in conjunction with the campus plan.

So the applicant went down that route and had -and, and proposed the combined PUD and campus plan process,
which we had a public -- two public hearings on earlier this
fall, earlier this year. And, and concerns were raised then
that it still wasn't the right -- that, that the -- concerns
were raised that the public amenities and benefits were not
commensurate with the relief that's being requested in this
case, which is a unique case. We've all acknowledged that.

It's, it's because the student dorm being proposed on Wesley's campus will largely serve, not exclusively, but largely serve the students of the immediately abutting American University.

And so normally a university's dorm that is exclusively used by its students, faculty, and staff is exempt from inclusionary zoning because this is -- because this -- well, even with the campus plan without the PUD, the applicant was proposing that their -- they would meet, as, as a result of community concerns being raised, that -- about the population that would be occupying the -- the AU population that would be largely occupying the new student dorm in addition to the Wesley population, the applicant proffered a -- or proposed in the campus plan, proffered in the PUD an affordable housing covenant in lieu of IZ, which it doesn't fit clearly into this situation.

And they did a lot of work on that affordable housing covenant, which has been agreed to by DHCD as something that they could work with that would provide the same or more, I think slightly more housing for affordable units than what inclusionary zoning would require for a 659-unit built dorm, residential building, and they had income levels which were deeper than IZ would require. They had the income levels at the 30 percent level, the, the 50 percent level, and 60 percent or below level.

And so, you know, I was one who might have been in the minority who thought that the campus plan as proposed with an affordable housing covenant that was unique to this campus in terms of what they were proposing with the

abutting AU campus was something that we could, we could go with, in terms of a process.

We, we're at this -- we're at the process where now where we have before us the P -- combined PUD and the campus plan, and there's concerns raised that the public -- the benefits and amenities, which include the student affordable housing, include the playground, include the community room, include a first source employment agreement, which is only a few employment -- few -- a few jobs, but it's -- it is the first -- first employment agreement.

But that -- there, there's concerns raised that that isn't, that isn't sufficient. The -- I think -- and so, and so concerns were -- and, and so the opposition testimony called for a text amendment. I think the opposition testimony from both ANC 3E and from the -- which is -- 3E is where the, where the AU is actually located after redistricting.

3D is -- most 3D, which supports this application, supported it as a campus plan and supports it as a campus plan/PUD, and they are the ANC most immediately adjacent to AU's impacts. 3E is really across Massachusetts Avenue and doesn't get as many impacts. It gets impact, but not as many as the residential neighborhood immediately abutting the AU campus in Spring Valley and Wesley Heights.

So a text -- they suggest -- they -- that party in

- opposition and in -- and 3E suggested that a text amendment was needed to clearly state what the affordable housing requirement is and, and that it -- and, and that, that it -so -- so we had -- so we had before us the campus plan/PUD. We have suggestions that there needs to be a -- from the opposition in the record that there needs to be a text amendment. I think some of the opposition will oppose this no
 - matter what process we use. I think that's pretty evident.

 And I -- it's a unique case. It doesn't fit clearly, but I think it could have been, it could have been approved under the -- just a campus plan. It could have been approved under, under what's before us with the PUD.

I realize that, that some think that it's not -that the proper public amenities are not consent -commensurate with the relief, the exemption from the IZ
that's being requested. But they're proposing a student
housing covenant that if it works, and that's, that's a big
if, but DHCD thinks they can make it work, would, would be
more -- would be -- provide at least as much affordable
housing.

And so I, I think that we could -- we -- it could be effectively administered. It could be part of the campus plan, with or without the PUD. I would like the affordable housing covenant no matter which way we go, even if we do a

text amendment that specifically exempted Wesley's campus, recognizing the uniqueness of this application, exempted Wesley's campus from the inclusionary zoning requirements, even if they have housing for other students, in this case AU immediately abutting, which I'm not sure exists anywhere else in this -- in the city.

I've rambled on a long time, Mr. Chairman, but I, I think that we could, we -- you know, I was concerned about this a year ago, that we were letting process get in the way of a good result perhaps happening, and I, I don't want to just focus on the result, but Wesley does need to thrive in place. That was the major theme of its -- and I think that -- they, like so many other religious institutions in the city are struggling to survive for a variety of reasons, including the cost of land and the -- and other factors.

So I, I think maintaining a public -- a religious educational institution such as Wesley, which has been there for 61 years, has an affiliation, a religious affiliation as I recall, with, with American University in terms of its original founding, could justify this -- this going -- the going, going, going forward in one form or another.

I could be supportive of the campus plan amendment by itself, with or without a PUD, with or without a text amendment that specifically exempts the Wesley campus to make clear that this hard case, which is a hard case for all

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    concerned, the public, the applicant, us, interested
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    individuals, but a hard case oftentimes does make bad law.
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    We don't want to make bad law that applies everywhere else.
    I want it just to apply here, and I'm, I'm open to going
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    forward with whatever process a majority of the Commission
    might be comfortable with to allow this long-delayed,
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    delayed case to go forward.
              So I'll leave it at that, because I have a
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    grandson coming in the room who is crying about this case
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    as, as I am inside.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. We, we may have to hear
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    from him, depends on how we go.
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              Commissioner Imamura, you have any comments on
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    this?
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              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA:
                                      Sure.
                                             Thank you, Mr.
    Chairman, and thank you Vice Chair Miller for articulating
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    sort of the history of this case, where we've been, where
    we've come from, where we've been, and where we are now.
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                                                               Ву
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    my math we've spent about 15 hours deliberating on this
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    case. I've always said that zoning is, is an imperfect
    science, and it is imperfect and it's a little bit of
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    science, a little bit of art, and that's because of these
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    unique, but I would call it more unconventional cases.
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              Generally, you know, I always -- I'm inclined to
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This one is a difficult case, as Vice Chair Miller

- described, certainly fraught with issues and challenges.

 And I guess I've got a couple notes here, Mr. Chairman, if

 you'll indulge me, and I'll, I'll try to be as succinct as I
- 4 can.

So one of the issues that concerns me here is just sort of the framework and whether or not IZ really should or does apply to, to dorms. I think there's a collective agreement here that this is a residential use of the dorm. That's not really in question here. But, you know, can an affordable student housing program be effectively managed has been my concern, and the framework set up for that.

Certainly appreciate the affordable housing covenant that's been prepared. I'm still uncomfortable with the fact that there's some data missing here about, you know, the populations that exist that are eligible for this. We know that 90 students from Wesley is -- are D.C. residents; about 1300 from AU are D.C. residents. But we still don't know of, of that student population who might even be eligible.

And I'm disappointed that a project of this importance wasn't able to provide that information as the foundation for their argument here. I would have expected and assumed they would have been able to provide that information to say, these are the number of students that are eligible for affordable student housing as we've -- as

we're proposing.

Certainly Vice Chair Miller had brought up, you know, some of the other issues and concerns by the ANC about the streetscape and transportation infrastructure proffers that were requested by DDOT, not technically being proffers there, but mitigation measures. I'm kind of inclined to agree with that.

I would add, and during one of the hearings I did mention that there is a good point that Wesley makes that the campus plan here ensures and protects the open space. And that, that viewshed of the green space and open space is important to the community. And of course I think everybody is in general agreement that we'd like to see Wesley thrive in place. It's a matter of how we get there.

You know, and I'm also concerned about the broader policy implications, you know, affordable student housing and whether that -- whether or not the applicant's really demonstrated or proved that there is a demonstrable need for affordable student housing by AU students. I think that's the other thing that concerns me, is that AU's been largely silent on this. I think it would have been easier for Wesley if they had them as a partner here.

I had asked about an ombudsman from the Office of Tenant Advocate. While they've agreed to at least help send out, you know, informational flyers and support the students

by providing legal representation or at least referring
students to non-profits for legal services, again, that just
kind of contributes to my concern.

I am pleased to hear that DHCD is in agreement with the affordable housing covenant. And I think, you know, at -- I could be persuaded, but right now I'm very concerned that there is some extraordinary relief that's being requested here. I'm not fully convinced yet that the proffers are sufficiently adequate.

In terms of the design, that was another concern, Mr. Chairman, about superior architecture and urban design. I would argue that the applicant is achieving LEED gold, and while it's not net zero, and I think your comment to this, Mr. Chairman, about the solar panels, I read the record, read the, the additional documentation that the applicants provided.

I find it -- I'm, I'm satisfied with their justification about the solar plan -- solar panels on the roof in terms of the, the, the square footage that's available there for that. I think LEED role -- lead gold is still a laudable, and, and still a remarkable achievement there. Achieving net zero is -- would be overly burdensome and I'm not convinced that this particular project could achieve that.

In terms of the superior architecture and urban

- 1 design and that it's not really I quess in alignment with 2 the existing architecture on the campus, that's not really a 3 concern that I share.
- I think it's -- and in terms of its height, scale, 4 5 and mass, certainly compatible with the surrounding AU facilities adjacent to it. And the fact that it is rather 6 7 vanilla works in its favor, works in the applicant's favor. I don't think that the architecture is extraordinarily 8 offensive. I think that it naturally blends in, perhaps not 9 with the same style of architecture, but again, I think the 10 fact that it is vanilla it's a success.

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- That's where I stand, Mr. Chairman. interested to hear Commissioner Stidham's point of view and her thoughts, as well as yours, Mr. Chairman, and anything else either of you might add on additional data that at least would give me a little peace of mind to ensure that, you know, we're, we're heading in the right direction.
- Like Chairman Miller had said, I, I would prefer I think a text amendment to make this a little cleaner. I know we've gone through some exercises here with the PUD and perhaps a text amendment would be appropriate. But again, I can easily be persuaded.
 - So with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Commissioner Imamura, and typically I don't ask commissioners questions, 25

1 but I'm asking you a question because that's helping me. Your comments, it was good to hear your architectural 2 3 analysis. So -- and I want to make sure I got it correct, 4 5 because I was -- some of my concerns were what I've heard from the community. So you really don't think -- and then 6 7 we did this in another case and I'm glad you brought that up, about the change of the façade and the character of 8 9 architecture, and I was glad you brought that up. 10 But let me ask you this. So I didn't hear you say -- so you don't have any problem with the density in the 11 12 Is that a correct assessment that I -envelope. 13 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: That's correct, Mr. 14 Chairman, because it's not just -- we don't want to judge this just by the property line of Wesley's campus, because 15

Chairman, because it's not just -- we don't want to judge this just by the property line of Wesley's campus, because it does abut AU's campus and there are buildings that are immediately adjacent. So, you know, I don't think that people will necessarily -- it, it's something that you evaluate in, in a broader context.

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So, again, it's not just about the campus itself and within the property line. It's architecturally how does it communicate with the buildings that are surrounding it.

I'm not fully convinced that it's -- in terms of mass, scale, and height that it's inappropriate. I know they did step back the building a bit. I think the illustrations

that they've provided and the tree canopy that covers some of it from the views from Mass, Massachusetts and elsewhere was very helpful.

And there is a formula to the solar -- to the photovoltaics and solar panels to determine whether or not it'd be effective and would yield enough points to get them over the edge to, to make it, you know, beyond LEED gold and to net zero.

And so I'm convinced that they've probably sussed this out and crunched the numbers and it just doesn't work. It's infeasible to, to make it net zero, given their financial formula and the program of the building and the way it's been designed, just -- it's just, just infeasible to, to get it over the edge to make it net zero.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you. Now, that was very helpful. That was me asking you, so that was very helpful to me.

Okay. Commissioner Stidham.

COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Thank you, Chair. This is a tough case. I went back over the record as during the hearing and the initial review of the record I had a lot of concerns related to the, the PUD, the use of the PUD process and what they're requesting in terms of the campus plan and those requirements.

I agree with a lot of what Commissioner Imamura

has pointed out as -- you know, starting with the campus 1 2 I have grave concerns about the impacts on the local plan. community and the fact -- I'm not convinced that this meets 3 the requirement of an educational use. 4

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- If this was a smaller building specifically for the students of Wesley, I think it would be much easier to 6 7 understand that use. Having AU as part of the equation and not understanding how many people we're talking about that 8 would qualify or even the, the interest there and them being 10 largely silent I think just further complicates it. And not being -- and I agree with Commissioner Imamura, not 11 12 providing that information doesn't support what they're, they're trying to accomplish here. 13
 - So as far as the campus plan, you know, I, I am not in agreement here that this is for an educational use.
 - For the, for the PUD, I just -- I don't feel it's the right process here for what they are trying to do. It's asking for a lot of relief and I'm, and I'm not seeing a benefit to the community at large.
 - So, frankly, I'm not in support of either. Maybe I could be convinced, but as I stand right now, I'm, I'm just not supportive of it.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Thank you, Commissioner Stidham. I, I will tell you that as -- it's 24 25 already been mentioned. I don't have to say it anymore, and

I know the vice chair said he was rambling, but I was thinking when he was saying that, then I'm going to be rambling and scrambling. So I'm going to not do that, because I'm all over the place.

- But I will tell you that one of the things I think for me that's key, I've heard text amendment and I was not sure whether 3E was talking about in their rulemaking, was it the same thing that, that we kind of have been talking about and, and throwing around. I'm not sure where it came from and I'm not even sure we're talking about the same thing.
- But one of the things I think is key and I think Commissioner Imamura said it and I'm not sure, I think others have said it too, this -- I still don't understand why AU is not at the table. I don't know why they are not here, because I understand the community, I understand what they're saying.
- But then I also was thinking, and I'm really going to start scrambling now, and I said this at the hearing, has education changed? I, I remember having this conversation with Commissioner May over the years and Commissioner Turnbull over the years, and even the late Gerald Lee Crest (phonetic) over the years.
- Are things changing and the Zoning Commission's not? Are we stuck in our ways? And I even thought about

1 that in this case. Is this the new way? And I think I 2 mentioned this in the hearing because I know where my 3 grandkids look. So I'm trying to figure out, are we stuck? Is there something that we need to do? 4 5 I, I hear about the text amendment. I agree with I think we all want Wesley to, to be in place. 6 7 But also, I also think Wesley and AU, even though they're not a part of this for some reason, need to help us. 8 I don't think it should all just be on us. And, and after 9 hearing my colleagues, I don't even want to get no further, 10 but if you all want to, I will. 11 12 I want to kick it back to them, because I, I looked at the, the transcript and I don't think anybody said 13 14 do it this way, and I know -- I think what we, we, we trying to figure out -- and I, I want Wesley to understand this. 15 We want to help. I want AU and I want the public to 16 17 understand, we want to make sure -- I think -- I know the 18 vice chair has made it plain, and I, I can go there too. I 19 want to help. 20 But help us to help you. Right now, hiding and not -- and I'm not saying you're hiding, AU, because we, we 21 22 all know you got a whole lot of land up there. But stepping 23 back and not coming forward and telling us -- I think the 24 neighborhood wants something predictable and they want the

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real deal.

But I was glad Commissioner Imamura was -- as far as I'm concerned right now on the Commission, an expert in architecture. I'm a expert to a degree, but not to the degree he is, and I think that's very helpful, what he said, hearing from somebody who has formal training. Yeah, I've been here 25 years and I got, I got, what do they call it, Philadelphia training. But I think that's important when I hear from someone who has formal training about the architecture. So for me, that's taken off the table.

And I will say this. Not to throw everything at, at AU and Wesley or anybody, some of the things from LLC, and I know they'll probably be upset with me after this, some of the things I, I think that they were concerned about is some of the things, things they were -- I'm not going to say accusing, because they were not accusing.

Some of the things that they were offering there could be potential problems I think is a stretch. I think they've really stretched some of those issues. I'm not saying all of them, but some of them you stretch. I'm not going to read them. I was going to read them and go through all that.

So I, I really don't know if we should continue in this fashion. We can, first of all, see -- let me do this.

Because there are so many moving pieces to this, give me one moment. Let me look at my notes.

And I also always want to acknowledge Office Zoning legal division for capturing these in one or two sentences so we don't have to run around and look at thousands of sheets of paper and try to figure out where everything is. Get to my place.

So one of the things that, that I wanted to ask my colleagues, and, and I'm going to see how this goes, and I've heard the concern about the campus plan. Do we think that this is appropriate -- and I'm, I'm asking this for a reason, so I can figure out how we're going to go.

Do we think this is appropriate as presented to facilitate development on -- as -- of the new dorm and that the applicant meets the PUD balancing test and advances comp plan racial equity goals the way it's presented now? Do we think that? Anybody can go first or --

COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: I'll, I'll jump in here, Mr. Chairman. I'm not fully convinced that it advances racial equity goals. This is strictly -- this is specific to Wesley and AU students, so this doesn't involve the community and I'm not convinced that it advances racial equity goals for the comp plan.

You know, again, this is -- where we are is trying to fit a square peg in a round hole, and I appreciate that we've run down this process to, to figure out whether the PUD process works or doesn't work. And I, I'm not sure that

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    it does.
              I'm not entirely -- you know, I, I think that a, a
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    dorm of this size and at this use is appropriate for Wesley.
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              But I'm -- to your question, Mr. Chairman, no, I,
    I don't personally believe that the -- this advances our
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    racial equity goals for the city, again, because it's just
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    specifically about AU students; 1300 of them are -- that are
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    D.C. residents, anyway, 90 resident -- 90 students from
    Wesley that are D.C. residents for a student dormitory of
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    600 and some units.
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              So that's essentially where I, I stand.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Commissioner Stidham,
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    you want to opine on that as well?
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes. I agree with
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    Commissioner Imamura. It's -- I -- these aren't D.C.
    residents. They -- it -- the unpredictable numbers. I
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    don't, I don't think it, it promotes the racial equity that
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    we're looking for for the neighborhood. I don't think it
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    really does anything for the composition of the
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    neighborhood.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD:
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                                 Thank you.
              Vice Chair Miller?
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              VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
    So I respectfully disagree with my Commissioners Imamura and
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    Stidham, to, to the extent that this provides affordable
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    housing for students, whether they're students of Wesley or
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income threshold requirements for 30 percent or below at -in the covenant, and the other income threshold requirements
that are there. I think it does promote racial equity.

The -- on the issue of the D.C. residents, I mean, that, that's an issue in every inclusionary zoning case that we never get into. DHCD has its method of determining who D.C. resident -- which D.C. residents are qualified, whether they're living here, whether they're -- I don't know if it's whether they're paying taxes or voting or whatever.

But they need to meet those requirements, and at least the way I read the covenant, it's going to be the same requirements as, as the inclusionary zoning program. So that's not an issue for us, I don't think. I think they -- I think if you live in D.C. nine months of the year, you are a D.C. resident, first of all.

But I think whatever standards DHCD criteria the AD -- DHCD uses to evaluate whether the affordable units should -- whether the student -- the, the students should qualify as residents are the same, so that'll be up to DHCD to enforce and administer.

And they -- and these students who need housing, the neighborhood doesn't want them in the neighborhood.

They'd be on the campus. They don't want them taking -- they don't want them in the apartment building that might be

rent-controlled in the neighborhood if, if these are students who are needy.

And there are -- there's a lot of evidence in the record about the Pell, Pell Grant students that exist at AU. And no one's denying that it's a wealthy university, but there are needy students at every university. That's why they have scholarship programs that are very generous to those who need them.

So to the extent that they're using an on-campus dormitory, yes, on Wesley's campus, and not going into the neighborhood, that's affecting the supply and demand in the neighborhood and, and helping keep prices down in the neighborhood and maybe not having the adverse impacts of students living in an apartment building in the neighborhood or in someone's basement of, of their house, more likely, or renting a whole house. I don't know.

So I, I think an argument can be made that racial equity is advanced, and I think that the D.C. residents' argument is not our issue. That's an issue in every IZ case, that they'll have to be -- the -- the qualified population would have to be -- I agree -- I think I said it the very first hearing on the campus plan, this would have been cleaner, easier, others have said it here today, and, and maybe before as well, that if A -- if Wesley had just sold the land somehow or disposed of the land to AU to build

this dorm and make -- and let AU come in for the campus plan, a campus plan amendment of its own that would deal with mostly AU students immediately abutting.

On the design issue, there is an area of -- in addition to the exemption from IZ or the uniqueness -- well, the exemption from IZ and the substitution of it with affordable housing covenant, in addition to that issue, there was the issue that there's an area variance being requested for the height adjacent -- it's actually adjacent to AU. It's because they increased the setback in response to neighborhood's concerns of the part of the building that is adjacent -- that is closest, closer to the residential single family homes.

So they -- because they increased that setback, they reduced the setback below our -- what minimum requirement on the AU side. So what -- it's the height setback in that case, and they already had reduced the height all -- overall, and the number of beds and the density as -- in a response to neighborhood concerns.

And on the -- just wanted to comment on the DDOT proffers, I agree they're mostly mitigation measures to -- against adverse impacts, but I think they went beyond that, and the applicant did, at least, in offering the whole exit issue out of -- into University Avenue. And so I think it's -- and that was an issue for both 3D -- for 3D, not just 3E,

- and I think for the party in opposition to not have certain turns out of -- on Massachusetts Avenue out of University Avenue, or on University Avenue.
- So I think it's public benefit and in mitigation.

 I'll leave it at that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. This is, this is -I appreciate every -- all my colleagues, and I don't think I
 agree with anybody, and that's the problem.
- Even if we had another commission -- I mean, I agree some pieces of all of it, but my problem again is I don't, I don't think this is flavored right, because I don't, I don't understand why AU is -- this is benefitting AU. This is, this is -- this -- and I said this even when, when we first started, whether it was year ago or so.
 - And I've been, I've been prompted on how -- to help me remember about the ANC, and let me just say this for the record. ANC 3 wanted a text amendment to create a student affordable housing program. And I think one of the things that we've tossed around is a text amendment to exempt housing on the Wesley campus specifically from IZ, so that's two different things.
 - So I thought I -- I thought if we did the text -- or we proposed a text amendment, which I, which I'm going to talk about in a moment, then that would solve some of the issues. I just, I just can't get over the fact that it

feels like the discussion that Commissioner Imamura and 1 2 Commissioner Stidham and, and me and, and you, Vice Chair 3 Miller -- I was supposed to go last, proper English, but I didn't. 4 It just feels like that as, as you mentioned the 5 residential and commercial use, I think the community has a 6 7 point. I think they bring up a very good point. As much as I want to -- Wesley to stay and thrive in place, and I, and 8 9 I heard the president and I agree with the president, 10 religious -- you're right, Vice Chair. Religious 11 institutions are -- need help. There are many of them who 12 are building houses and everything to offset the -- because I've said that. 13 14 But I just think this is not -- I don't know what -- and, and that's why I'm not going to make a 15 recommendation, because I don't know what to come back with. 16 17 I don't know how to get this done. Does AU get involved and 18 as, as has been mentioned previously? Does -- and I don't 19 want to talk about anybody selling land. That's the last 20 thing I'm going to mention. But does AU become a partner? What's wrong with 21 22 that? And then that'll cut out some of the problems that it 23 looks like we've -- that people may feel, even though I know 24 -- I don't think that's the intent. Now, we're talking

about a religious organization that, that the intent feels

like we're circumventing the issue. And I think what the community, at least 3E, and I understand 3D too. 3D is in support.

- But it feels like, and not even from a regulatory, it just feels like somebody's trying to evade something or do something differently to cut out something else that they should do. I don't know, I don't know. That's kind of where I am.
- Commissioner Imamura, you wanted to add something? COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ι think, yeah, a couple points. I'm in agreement. that I'd feel better about this if AU came to the table with Wesley as a partner and said, absolutely, we've got students that, that, you know, will be interested and, and could use this, you know, over 500-some beds, I think almost a hundred are supposed to be identified for Wesley, and this is terrific.
 - And that would, that would be helpful. We've heard from Wesley's partner that, you know, well, our market studies show that, you know, this is -- we've done this elsewhere across the country and, and we think that, that this could be successful here too. But, you know, essentially, AU students are majority of the population for this particular use.

To Vice Chair Miller's point about -- I'm, I'm

certainly supportive of affordable student housing. I want to be clear about that. I'm one of those students that could have benefitted from affordable student housing. I have the student loans to prove it. And I agree that this takes -- opens up the housing stock and, and provides students another housing option.

And personally, I think it gets -- I know one of the concerns was automobiles, cars, traffic, parking on the street, and this would certainly help alleviate some of that. So I think the use and purpose of the, of the dorm would benefit the neighborhood.

My issue is whether or not this is the appropriate tool, and I think I, I don't know if I'm fully convinced that the Zoning Commission should get in the business of affordable student housing. And, you know, what precedent, not just the fact that this is a ground lease and that we all agree this is a unique circumstance and that that's not the precedent here, but what other affordable student housing -- this would -- might set the benchmark for that for other programs. And so what are those unintended consequences of this?

I think I would prefer that, you know, the affordable housing covenant isn't apples to apples here or oranges to oranges equivalent to IZ. I think I'm, I'm not -- I'm less inclined to -- I think a text amendment might be

- appropriate. I have some pause and reservation about highlighting or calling out Wesley specifically as the exemption here, but it is a means to an end.
- And again, trying -- I -- trying to achieve the same goal here, the same end result. But, boy, Mr.
- Chairman, I would agree with you, your comment too that all the work is on us here. It would sure be great if -- you know, the good neighbor policy also includes the applicant working with, with partners, building partnerships to help

us, you know, get to their end goal here.

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And I think the weight of AU coming in to say, yep, this is great, we, we see a value and a benefit for our campus, for our students, and we confirm that there's a, a need for this. Right now we don't even have the data to substantiate that there's a need for AU students for 500 and some units.

So that's where I stand, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So we know that we have some pause on the, the amendment, the campus amendment. We know that we're -- I'm -- I now have pause on the -- I, I would -- thought the text amendment would, would solve some of it, but because of the variations of that -- and I agree. I think all the work is being put on us.

And again, Vice Chair, I agree with you. I, I want Wesley to stay. I want all religious institutions to

stay in the District of Columbia. But it, it doesn't come
with a compromise that I'm just throwing all -- everything
out just so that -- but for me, it's procedurally incorrect,
the way I see it. Because the reality of it is it's, it's
helping sustain -- helping -- and it's very -- it's a very
-- I've seen a lot of crafty stuff done bad and it's very
crafty, but I don't think it's right.

I think the -- as part of the community, 3, 3E and some of the NLC has made a -- and the South -- Spring Valley Wesley Heights Community Association has made a point. But some of it I said is, is a stretch. I just think that AU has to be here somewhere. They need to be at the table.

And what I'm going to do, if, if my colleagues agree, because I think we can, we can hash this out all day. I think we'd be in the same place, because obviously don't have the votes. We don't have the votes to approve it. I think the vote would be two -- I can tell you right now what I heard the vote would be. It would be two, two to, two to one to one. No. It wouldn't be an abstain. Well, anyway, I'm not going to worry about that.

So, anyway, let's, let's -- what I would like to do, let's have this discussion this way. Let's put it back on the applicant. We can't solve the record. We don't tell them what to do. They either need to come back with us for some text amendments that deal with some of the concerns

that they've heard, or they need to -- as, as Commissioner

Imamura and others have said, work with AU. I'm not going

to say -- I'm not going to go that far, Vice Chair, and say,

sell the land, because I, I don't want to go that far.

But they need to come back, if it's a joint application or however it's done. And I don't know -- I don't recall that ever coming up. I think we kept talking about it. But why was that not done? Because I'm sure that there is some reason out there that I don't remember, that, that -- why that was not done that way. Or I'm not sure.

Or like you said, Vice Chair, add it to the AU campus plan and make it -- there, there is a way that will do within the process and which we've already written our regulations to make this work. Why do we have to keep changing stuff, doing -- and I agree about the text amendment. We got to change this to make this work for this land. We can tailor it to this land, but I think the onus should not be on the Zoning Commission. We should be voting it up or down or making modifications.

So I'm sure somebody will misconstrue that and say that Anthony Hood and the Commission wanted the Wesley to leave and all -- I'm sure that's all going to come up, but that is not the case. So we're going to present it, present it right.

Okay. All right. Any, any other of my colleagues

1 have anything else to say? 2 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. 3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Commissioner Imamura. 4 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: I second that, present it 5 and present it right. But to answer your question, Dr. McAllister-Wilson said on a number of occasions AU will 6 7 engage at the appropriate time. So I feel that this is the 8 appropriate time. 9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner 10 Yes. If it wasn't the appropriate time Imamura. 11 previously, this is the appropriate time. Let me hear --12 okay, Commissioner Imamura. Let me hear from Commissioner Stidham, then I'll go to you, Vice Miller, and then I want 13 14 to talk to you, Ms. Schellin. 15 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Thank you. You know, I, I 16 agree, affordable housing is very important for students. 17 They're trying to get an education. They need a place to 18 live while they're doing that. So not to construe that I'm against affordable housing for students, because it 19 20 definitely is needed. 21 I'm -- I agree now is the time for AU to come 22 forward if they believe that this project will help them 23 with a need that their university is having and that they 24 need to show us that this is a need. We can't just guess at 25 the need when the, the primary user would be AU students.

think I recall the number of Wesley students, it's only 90 for a, for a building with over 600 units. That, that math doesn't work.

So I think either they need to come with the, the data to support that AU's on board and, and has the numbers to show us, or they come back with a, a building that is appropriate for their use solely. You know, I, I don't want them to leave the District either, but we just -- we can't just change things to -- because we don't want that to happen.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you.

Vice Chair Miller, you have anything to add?

VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I understand where my colleagues are coming from and I understand where all of the parties, both in support and opposition are coming from. I think I understand. I'm a little concerned. I realize it's not upon us to, to recraft an application to meet some vision of what is -- what better fits into our zoning regulations.

But I'm, I'm concerned about this Commission repeatedly in this case sending the applicant down rabbit holes that don't provide anything in the end. And they -- and maybe that's an opportunity the government's providing so they don't have to deny the case, so that's something to consider -- the case is still alive because that would

involve a lot of delay as well. But I think there is a way
to make this work within our existing regulations. I've
said that.

- I don't want to be repetitive and redundant, but I think in, in some ways we've made this more complicated than it had to be. It's, it's not that, that difficult a concept to understand. We would have preferred if it had been done a different way, but in the end I think there -- enough conditions and commitments and safeguards, and a lot of community engagement. There's been responses to that community engagement that we, that we could go forward, and sooner rather than later.
 - But, you know, we can be in search of the more perfect instead of the good, but I'm ready to go and -- but I'm obviously in the minority, so that's where I am. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
 - CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So, so I'm looking at the transcript, which I've been -- the one that we talked about. And the problem is we make recommendations, and I would, I would always encourage us not to make recommendations. I mean, I, I'm only one commissioners. Commissioners can do what, what they please and how they choose. I'm not trying to stifle nobody, because I don't want to be stifled.
- But I'm looking at -- and I'm not going to call
 any names, but I'm looking at discussion that I was having,

- 1 and it says, I think you talked about that too, Mr.
- 2 | Chairman. And I mean something that occurred to me and I
- 3 think I mentioned it in previous deliberations was that the
- 4 | way that I could conceivably, conceivably consider approving
- 5 this would be if it actually were a plan you develop.
- 6 And as you can see, that's why I don't make -- I
- 7 | don't want us -- I would -- I -- Anthony Hood's not going to
- 8 make a recommendation because I, I really think the missing
- 9 tool for me is where is AU? That's the missing piece for
- 10 me.
- 11 And here's the thing. When we talk about
- 12 | affordable housing, you're right, you're right, Vice Chair
- 13 Miller. The rich schools are -- have affordable,
- 14 affordability issues as well, so -- and then, then that's
- 15 the tale of two cities because the colleges that are in my
- 16 | neighborhood when we talk about we can't afford that, we
- 17 can't even touch what's going on over there. So, so that's,
- 18 | that's, that's the reality of it.
- 19 But I also know that from my standpoint, and I
- 20 | want to make this clear to Wesley, I want you to be here. I
- 21 | just have problems with the process and the way this is
- 22 being presented. Don't know any answers. I'll leave that
- 23 to the legal minds to come back to us.
- 24 And, and Ms. Schellin, I'd like to know if they
- 25 have exhausted all their resources and, and if American can

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    come back to the table with them or what the problem is.
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    can't tell nobody who to apply and all that, so I don't want
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    to tell American to apply. I just want to know where, from
    Wesley, where is all the parties involved who are going to
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    be doing this interaction? And I would like to deal with
    that in the next two weeks. I don't want that to last too
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    long. If not, we'll come back and finish having this
    discussion.
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              Do we have another meeting this month?
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir, the 30th. So can I ask a
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    question now, or are you guys still in --
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Sure, sure, go ahead, go ahead.
              MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. So from a procedural
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    standpoint, I, I heard you guys. You were pretty much at
    two, one, one, and this case has to have some kind of
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    conclusion, whether it's approved or denied. And so it
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    can't just sit out there and wait for the, wait for the
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    applicant, as you know, to go off and maybe come back with
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    something else unless you're asking them to come back to
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    file something else and allow the parties to respond to it
    in this case that might have you guys to get to a three
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    decision.
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              And so that's my question. Are you asking them to
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    reach out to AU to see if AU will come to -- to the table,
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you know, provide you guys with some type of submission, and

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    allow the parties to respond to it that would give you guys
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    a comfort to where you might be able to get to a -- whether
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    it's a, a three to zero to one, obviously, we don't have a
    third mayoral appointee seat, to be able to either approve
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    it or deny it, because we have to dispose of this case one
    way or the other. We can't just leave it out there, as you
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 7
    know.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Right. We, we don't have to
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    dispose it in the next two weeks or the next -- end of the
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    month.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Right.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Or this month or the next --
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              MS. SCHELLIN: So that's what I'm asking.
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    want them to --
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: What I, what -- this is what I
15
16
    want.
17
              MS. SCHELLIN:
                             Okay.
18
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: What I want them to know --
19
    they've heard our conversation.
20
              MS. SCHELLIN:
                             Mm-hmm.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All I want them right now to do
21
    is to say are they going -- like we did previously. Go
22
23
    back. You heard our conversation. Are you all going to try
24
    to come up with something else or discover something? And
25
    then we'll go back to the regular procedure. Right now I
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1
    want to know, are you already, are you already interested,
 2
    well, not interested -- did you hear the Commission, and are
 3
    you looking at revamping and coming back however you choose
 4
    to do that?
 5
              I, I just want to know what is their intent?
    you all have the intent? And, now, if people want to
 6
 7
    respond to whether they have an intent or not, that's,
    that's totally different. And then we'll come back and put
 8
9
    all the formalities in place, if, if that's clear.
                                                        That
10
    makes sense.
11
              MS. SCHELLIN: So we can set a schedule for that.
12
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We'll do that then. I just
13
                   They heard our discussion. They heard some
    want to know.
14
    of the comments that we made. I'm not saying adopt, I'm not
    saying adopt any of mine, adopt any of the Vice Chair's, any
15
    of Commissioner Stidham, or commissioner Imamura, not adopt
16
17
    any of them. What I'm asking them to do, they heard the
    conversation for -- it's, it's their job now to help take a
18
19
    conclusion and come up with that conversation looking at our
20
    regulations and see how they can get three votes.
          That's their job.
21
    job.
22
              MS. SCHELLIN: Exactly, exactly.
23
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Alrighty. And we can do that
24
    in two -- at the next meeting.
                                    That --
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MS. SCHELLIN: Yeah. I saw, I saw Commissioner

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Stidham --
1
 2
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah. I'm going to go to her.
 3
    I'll go to her.
 4
              MS. SCHELLIN:
                             Okay.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I just want to make sure you --
 5
              MS. SCHELLIN: So I'll wait for you guys to do
 6
 7
    that, and you tell me when you want a schedule.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
 8
 9
              MS. SCHELLIN: And I'll give you some dates.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Commissioner
10
11
    Stidham.
12
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: I, I was just going to
13
    suggest -- well, it -- I was listening to what you were
14
    saying to see if you were going -- what you were going to
    request that they do. So based on what you said, I, I don't
15
16
    think what I was going to suggest is helpful, because it's,
17
    it's different than what you asked for.
18
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Oh, go ahead. And it might --
19
    I might need to change my mind.
                                     Go ahead.
20
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Well, I, I, I was going to
    suggest two things, that they not just come back with the
21
22
    support of AU, but they come back with the numbers to
23
    support the, the number of units that they're talking about,
24
    that they're actually -- not just a letter of support, not
25
    just them showing up at the next meeting, but there actually
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be the data, the actual facts to support the need for this
many units that would include them and AU to prove that it
would be a successful situation.

But I'm also in agreement with what you suggested,

that they come back with what their intent is, what their next step would be. It's sort of the same thing, except lacking the data part, which I, I think the data is a really missing piece to support what they're suggesting that -- I think that's part of why we're really struggling.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Anybody else? Commissioner Imamura?

COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I agree with Commissioner Stidham, and I just want to put it out there that if we were to -- all to vote tonight that it seems apparent as you surmise, that this -- that there may not be enough votes to carry. So I think is a rather generous offer that you're giving them to retool, not even retool, just they've heard the conversation tonight and on what gives us a little bit of a heartburn here.

But I think I could easily be, you know, persuaded if -- with some additional supporting evidence, say, yep, this buttons it up, we got a partnership, whatever that might -- however that might --

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you.

Vice Chair Miller, you have anything to add?

VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yeah. So in addition to -- if, if we're going to put off for additional submission from Wesley, I would suggest that they also opine on, on the discussion and suggestions in the record that we've -- that have been made about a, a -- about a text amendment that would specifically exempt housing such as this developed on the campus of Wesley with an approved campus -- within an approved campus -- exempting from IZ housing developed on the campus of Wesley with an approved campus plan for students, faculty, or staff. I don't know if there are three votes for that, but there might be. And so I think their opinion on that might be helpful.

I think I've made clear that I was prepared to go forward almost under any of the scenarios that have been offered, but if we're going to wait for, for a submission, I think -- and a comment on, on a text amendment which might get them to their goal more quickly than other options.

But the data that you've requested, that's one thing. And so I'll just -- I thought that the data wasn't necessarily necessary because on the number of residents or the need, because that's -- DHCD has determined that they could work with the, with the deep income levels and the set-asides that are equivalent are more than IZ, so -- and the D.C. residency is issue is something they, they deal with.

1 And that doesn't -- and that's not something that 2 they're asking for an exemption from, although there -- it's 3 clearly not -- doesn't fit in within the inclusionary zoning 4 program. And if they're having non-Wesley population on 5 that, then it needs an exemption. I would agree with that, that they, they need an exemption or they needed a special 6 7 exception relief under the campus plan, so -- which I was willing to go with as well. So that's where we are, I 8 9 guess. 10 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Thank you, Vice Chair. And again, we're going to, we're going to try to 11 12 deal with this in -- I think at our next meeting. But Ms. Schellin, I'm going to let you come up 13 14 with the dates and everything. In the --15 MS. SCHELLIN: Sure. CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Wait. Before you go, before 16 17 you go, before you go, I do want to say something about a 18 text amendment. And I know we've done this in the past. 19 The text amendment will be specific to this lot and parcel, 20 at least that's what I will be proposing. So I want to put 21 that out there for --22 VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: That's what I was, 23 that's what I was suggesting. As I said earlier, hard cases 24 make bad law. I don't want to make this apply to a student 25 housing -- I don't want to figure out a student housing

affordability policy on this case. 1 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Right. 3 VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: This is a hard case. 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I think we'll just --5 VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: That may be something we should look at in the future, but as, as you've said, Mr. 6 7 Chairman, in terms of change -- making things fit as, as we go forward. But, yeah, specific to this case so that it's 8 not applying -- we don't know what -- that's a whole --9 another dozens of hours of --10 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Right. No, no. So I would 12 like Wesley to help us uncomplicate things. Ms. Schellin, we have any dates? 13 Okay. MS. SCHELLIN: I do. So our next meeting is the 14 30th, which is in one, two, three weeks. And considering we 15 16 have Thanksgiving holiday in there, I'd like to set the 17 schedule so that we get everything in prior to the 18 Thanksgiving holiday so our staff has an opportunity to be 19 able to prepare for our meeting. So with that being said, if the applicant could 20 provide their information that you requested by 3 p.m. 21 22 Wednesday, the 15th of November, and then all of the 23 parties, if they choose to do so, would provide their 24 response to what the applicant provides by 3 p.m. on 25 Wednesday, the 22nd. Yes, I understand that's the day

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before Thanksgiving, however, we have to be able to, to meet
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 2
    the schedule for the second meeting in November. And so I
    think that's very doable, because the parties per the
 3
 4
    regulations are entitled to seven days to provide a
 5
    response.
              So 11/15 at 3 p.m. for the applicant; 11/22 3 p.m.
 6
 7
    for all of the parties. And we'll put this on for 11/30 at
    4 p.m. And that's it.
8
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Ms. Schellin, who is the
9
    counsel on this case? I -- because I can't remember. Who
10
11
    was it?
12
              MS. SCHELLIN: John -- I'm sorry. Pat Brown, and
    I believe --
13
14
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
              MS. SCHELLIN: -- then some of the Holland &
15
    Knight folks, I think also --
16
17
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay --
18
              MS. SCHELLIN: -- helped in the background.
19
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Okay. Thank you.
20
              All right. Is everybody ready? Anybody need a
    break? Okay. Nobody needs a break. Okay. Let's keep
21
22
    going.
23
              Let's go to Zoning Commission case number 23-07,
24
    701 Michigan, LLC - Map Amendment at Square 3657, Lots 11
25
    and 830.
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1 Ms. Schellin. 2 MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. On this one, at Exhibit 33 3 there is an NCPC -- sorry. Sorry. NCPC staff responded and 4 stated that the application was exempt from their review. 5 Exhibit 34, the applicant submitted a draft order. ready for consideration of final action. 6 7 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you. Commissioner Stidham, you'd like to start us off? 8 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Sure. I, I -- looking over 9 the record, it looks like this is a very straightforward 10 11 case based on we, we were looking at and the return. Some 12 of the follow-up was return of the daycare center, the proposed zone of M5 -- M2. Sorry. I think that, that I am 13 14 ready to support this case. CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you. Anybody else 15 have any comments on this one? 16 17 All right. Commissioner Stidham, you want to make 18 a motion? 19 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes. I would like to make 20 a motion for final action for zoning case number 23-07, at 21 701 Michigan, LLC - Map Amendment at Square 3657, Lots 11 22 and 830. 23 VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Second. CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. It's been moved and 24 25 properly second. Thank you both. Moved and properly

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1
    second. Any further discussion?
 2
              Not hearing any, Ms. Schellin, would you do a roll
 3
    call vote, please?
 4
              MS. SCHELLIN: Sure. That was a very soft second.
 5
    Was that Commissioner Imamura?
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: No, that was Vice Chair Miller.
 6
 7
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Vice Chair Miller.
              MS. SCHELLIN: Oh, Miller was very quiet.
 8
9
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: He was talking so much the
    other case, he -- I guess he's tired from --
10
              MS. SCHELLIN: Lost his voice? Okay.
11
12
              Commissioner Stidham?
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes.
13
14
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Miller?
              VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.
15
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Hood?
16
17
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes.
18
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Imamura?
19
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yes.
20
              MS. SCHELLIN: The vote is four to zero to one to
    approve final action in Zoning Commission case number 23-07,
21
22
    the minus one being the third mayoral appointee position,
23
    thank you, which is vacant.
24
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Next we have a time
25
    extension, Zoning Commission case number 08-34M, Capitol
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Crossing III, LLC, and Capitol Crossing IV, LLC - Two-Year

PUD Time Extension at Square 566.

Ms. Schellin.

MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. For this time extension, they are asking for a two-year time extension on the second stage, which was approved, and they want the extension to March 25th, 2026, to start construction and -- I'm sorry, to file the building permit and to start construction by March 25th, 2027. And then there's a related extension of the six-year deadline for the certificate of occupancy for the residential building or podium by March 25th, 2030.

The applicant has stated that it meets the requirements of Subtitle Z, Section 705.2 because they've taken numerous steps in the furtherance of the Capitol Crossing PUD and they've had an inability to obtain financing, despite the, despite the good faith efforts. And there were conditions outside of their control because of the construction industry's rising costs, so they are asking for this extension and it is ready for the Commission to consider it.

And I'm -- I want to say that the OP report is at Exhibit 6 that, that supports it. ANC 6E at Exhibit 3 states that they have unanimous support, and then 6C has not provided a report, nor 2C, but the 30-day requisite notice period has -- I'm sorry, response period has expired, so it

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is ready for you guys to consider final action if you choose
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 2
    to do so.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Ms. Schellin. And
 3
    Ms. Schellin has teed it up so good all I can do now is just
 4
    ask for a motion. I think that the merits in this case
 5
 6
    warrants us, unless my colleagues disagree, warrants us to
 7
    allow a two-year extension as requested. And I think she --
    all the specifics of this case have been warranted, I mean
8
    have been discussed by Ms. Schellin as she was teeing it up.
9
10
              So with that, unless I hear any objections, I
    would move that we approve our time extension, Zoning
11
    Commission case number 08-34M, and ask for a second.
12
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM:
13
                                     Second.
14
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA:
                                     Second.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: It's been moved and properly
15
    second. Any further discussion?
16
17
              Not hearing any, Ms. Schellin, would you do a roll
18
    call vote, please?
19
              MS. SCHELLIN: Sure. Commissioner Hood?
20
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes.
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Stidham?
21
22
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes.
23
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Imamura?
24
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yes.
25
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Miller.
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1 VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes. 2 MS. SCHELLIN: The vote is four to zero to one to 3 approve final action Zoning Commission case number 08-34M, 4 the minus one again being the third mayoral appointee seat, 5 which is vacant. Thank you. CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Let's go to hearing 6 7 action, excuse me, Zoning Commission case number 23-25, Office of Planning - Text and Map Amendments to Create the 8 9 Chevy Chase Neighborhood Mixed Uses Zone NMU-4/CCI (sic) & 10 NMU-4/CC2 at Square 1859, 1860, and 1865-1868. 11 Ms. Schellin. I'm sorry. Ms. Brown-Roberts. 12 MS. BROWN-ROBERTS: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Commission. Maxine Brown-Roberts from 13 14 the Office of Planning on Zoning Commission case 23-35. sorry. The number is wrong there. Next slide, please. 15 16 The Office of Planning proposes a zoning text 17 amendment to create the new Chevy Chase neighborhood mixed 18 use zone, NMU-4-CC1 and NMU-4 -CC2, and a map amendment to 19 map this zone on properties generally fronted on Connecticut 20 Avenue, Northwest between Chevy Chase Circle and the 21 Livingston Street, North -- and Livingston Street, 22 Northwest. 23 The proposed new zoning text and map amendment are 24 not inconsistent with the comprehensive plan, including when

viewed through a racial equity lens, and incorporates land

use and building massing design and use guidance from the council adopted Chevy Chase small area plan. Next slide.

The comprehensive plan. The generalized policy map designates the majority of the corridor as being within a main street mixed use corridor with a portion of the civic site designated as park. The corridor is within an area designated as a future planning analysis area accomplished through the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan. The future land use map designates the area for mixed moderate density residential and low density commercial for the corridor with local public facilities designation added to the civic site.

The proposed zones are not inconsistent with the generalized policy map and the future land use map as they would allow a mix of uses, particularly ground floor commercial and upper floor residential uses, as well as a District library, community center, and open space on the civic site.

The current MU-3A zone allows a mix of uses, but is listed in both the comp plan and zoning as a low density zone and does not permit the moderate density level of housing anticipated by this designation. The MU-4 zone land is typically designated on the FLUM for low density commercial or a mix of low density commercial and moderate density mixed use development. Next slide.

Other guidance. Discussions on the revitalization

of the Chevy Chase corridor begun after the 2021 update of the comprehensive plan, which placed a stronger emphasis on the provision of new housing and new affordable housing opportunities, particularly in areas such as a Rock Creek West planning area where there is a lack of dedicated affordable housing.

The Chevy Chase corridor was identified as a policy focus area on the comp plan map, and based on this recommendation the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan was approved by the council following extensive community outreach meetings and conversations. The Chevy Chase Small Area Plan also places great emphasis on the provision of more housing and in particular, affordable housing, as well as neighborhood retail along Connecticut Avenue.

Other plans which influenced recommendations include the Rock Creek West roadmap, which identify the Chevy Chase area where efforts should be made to increase the production of housing and affordable housing supported by vibrant public spaces, retail, and other amenities. The Housing Equity Report encourages housing through disposition and the D.C. Comeback Plan, which encourages the removal of barriers to the production of affordable housing. Next slide.

The area covered by the proposed text and map amendment can be described as a Chevy Chase main street

commercial corridor and includes the properties fronting on both the east and west side of Connecticut Avenue, generally between Western Avenue and Olive Street to the north, and Livingston Avenue to the south. A small number of properties face side streets and are typically part of a large development sites fronting on Connecticut Avenue.

The corridor has a variety of restaurants, retail, and service uses which serve the local community. One of the largest lots along the corridor is a District-owned property at, at 5625 Connecticut Avenue, and is also referred to as a civic site, which houses the Chevy Chase Library and the Chevy Chase Community Center.

The proposed text amendment. The proposal is to create two new Chevy Chase neighborhood mixed use zones.

The NMU-4/CC1 is for most of the properties fronting on Connecticut Avenue, and the NMU-4/CC2 is for the civic site and RF-1 for a few properties on side streets. Next slide.

The proposed zoning reflects the land use policy direction of the comprehensive plan with more area specific zoning provision for new construction and additions which address specific guidelines of the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan. Next slide.

The NMU-4/CCl zone is based on the MU-4 zone and would allow mixed use low density commercial and moderate density residential uses, which is generally ground floor

retail and residential use above. Along with the base MU-4 development standards, the new zone would also include provisions to encourage preservation of pre-58 building facades, require a minimum building height of 25 feet, require a setback of 3 feet minimum for buildings above the third floor, and provide additional FAR for buildings with 18-foot floor to ceiling heights.

Transition requirements are also provided to protect adjacent low density residential properties in the R and RF zones, as well as requirements to achieve the Connecticut Avenue frontage. Next slide.

The NMU-4/CC2 zone would apply only to the civic site that is currently zoned MU-3 and R-1B. The proposed zone reflects the comprehensive plan and Chevy Chase Small Area Plan recommendations by providing for mixed use and local public facility development, including moderate density level of housing on the District-owned site.

The proposed NMU-4/CC2 development standards would be similar to those allowed under the MU-4 PUD, with some variation to reflect the guidelines of the small area plan, such as a lower pantos (phonetic) height step-backs from the rear lot line and lot occupancy, which is limited to 60 percent for both residential and non-residential uses.

This limitation on the lot occupancy specifically addresses community concerns about the provision of open

space on the site. This limitation could also limit the
ability of the site to provide the level of housing
anticipated by the comp plan and the small area plan,
although they also recommend the provision of open space on
the site. Next slide.

The RF-1 zone. The proposed map amendment would also include a rezoning to RF-1 for a small number of sites fronting on side street that are currently zoned, that are currently zoned R-2 and R-1B, and are mainly surface parking lots that are in common ownership -- the commercial properties fronting on Connecticut Avenue.

Although generally included within the small area plan study area, applying the proposed new mixed use zones to these properties would not appear to be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan, and they could introduce commercial use on the low density neighborhoods.

Regarding racial equity, as outlined in the report
-- I'm sorry. Next slide.

Sorry. Okay, great. As outlined in our report, there was a history of discrimination in land use practices that has led to the racially segregated Rock Creek West planning area, and the displacement of Black communities, including through the use of restrictive covenants based on race and prohibition of residential development other than single family detached home in Chevy Chase.

Today, Chevy Chase is a high-opportunity area with many public and private amenities that is out of reach for a range of household incomes. Homeowners in the area are overwhelmingly White and wealthy, compared with the District as a whole. New housing would provide new opportunities to diversify the neighborhood.

The Chevy Chase community proposed text has evolved, Chevy Chase community and, and community outreach. The proposed text has evolved considerably over the past year, as OP has worked with ANC 4G and members of the community on the appropriate density and heights of buildings that would accommodate additional housing and neighborhood serving retails as, as stated in the comp plan, while addressing neighborhood character and impact from guidance received from community members, which significantly impacted the current proposed zoning. Next slide.

Following the approval of the 2021 comprehensive plan, OP began the process for the small area plan community engagement and participation through virtual and in-person activities. A dedicated project website was established to promote engagement activities and share information, and over 4,000 written comments were submitted to the webpage and by online surveys. OP attended or led 45 community events or meetings related to topics covered by the plan.

oP continues to be committed to the community engagement process through the text and map amendment process, and to date have had 15 engagement with ANC chairperson, ANC representatives, meetings with the council member, and included presentation of or draft texts included one-on-one discussions and e-mail exchanges. If the proposal is set down, additional ANC and community discussion will be held prior to the public hearing. Next slide.

In both the small area plan process and so far for the proposed text and map amendment some community members are supportive of the proposed changes, while others are skeptical and have expressed that the zoning action would result in negative physical change to the area and have expressed opposition to the provision of new housing, particularly on the civic site.

In our first draft presented to the community OP proposed the NUM(sic)-4/CCl zone based on the MU-4 standards for the majority of the corridor. Most feedback received was regarding transition from the lower density residential area, and we responded by increasing the rear and side yard setbacks.

On the civic site we originally based the zoning on the MU-5 zone. This was changed to the MU-4 PUD, which resulted in lower height and density. We also reduced the

lot occupancy to 60 percent to provide for more open space.

Next slide.

The proposed text amendment would provide new opportunities for the provision of new housing, as well as housing for more moderate and low-income residents of all racial and ethnic backgrounds. Overall, the proposed text and map amendment would advance many of the policies related to racial equity in the provision of housing, job creation, the advancement of art and culture, and assist in revitalization of an underserved area.

The Rock Creek West area has a goal of 1900 affordable units by 2025. In January of 2023, only 3.6 percent of the goal has been met and it, it is projected that only 13.8 percent of the goal will be realized by 2025.

The citywide elements. The Rock Creek West area elements specifically references the Chevy Chase corridor as a policy focus area and has resulted in the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan. This small area plan provide guidance to the supplement -- to supplement the comp plan direction regarding density and mixed use for new zoning established in the area and guidance for the review of discretionary and development proposals.

The proposed new neighborhood commercial zone for the corridor incorporates many of the guidelines pertaining to the building use and form. The small area plan does not

recommend specific zoning designations or regulations to implement the policies of the comp plan or the small area plan guidance.

Not every provision of the small area plan is relevant to zoning for this area or could be implemented through zoning. Provisions that are outside of the scope of the zoning regulations will be relevant to other approval processes, which is typical for small area plans. Next slide.

In summary, the proposed text amendment and map amendment is not inconsistent with the comp plan and the small area plan. The future land use map read in conjunction with the comp plan text provides policy objectives in support of the proposed zoning, and in particular the provision of housing and affordable housing and the preservation of open space for the community. The proposal will also encourage the expansion of the neighborhood retail uses and establish building setbacks to lessen potential impacts on the adjacent residential uses.

The Office of Planning therefore recommends that the proposed map amendment, proposed map and text amendment be set down for public hearing. Setting down the proposal would allow the continued discussion with the ANC and the Chevy Chase community. It is not envisioned that a public hearing would be held before early 2024, which allows for

continued meetings.

The Office of Planning also requests flexibility to work with the Office of the Zoning legal division on the draft language for the public hearing notice.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I'm available for questions.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you very much, Ms. Brown-Roberts, very thorough report. I do understand, Ms. -- that there was a copy of the notice or report given to the Chairperson, but not to the full ANC. Can you just kind of explain what happened there with the notice?

MS. BROWN-ROBERTS: Actually, we were not aware that the notice was supposed to come from OP, but we did send an e-mail to the Chairperson on October, I think October 16th, and we received the response on October 20, on October 20th that it was received.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, one of the letters that I -- that, that we saw that came in was I think asking for a survey. Well, let, let me just say this. I'm going to move that we waive our rules, 11 Z DCMR 304.11 and 500.7, because whether they were noticed or not, and I don't want to take any notice away from anybody, one thing that I've always made sure of, there is engagement and input from the community, and, and I think we -- the Zoning Commission has always done that.

And for what they said about a survey, they will have plenty of time to get us that survey. We will make time to get -- for that survey, which I think it's supposed to come in on the 12th. But they have -- whenever they get that survey together, whatever they're trying to do for their position, which I think is not necessarily germane to our set-down procedures anyway, we will make sure that that is in the record for our review as we move forward. So I, I would move that we waive, unless I hear from my colleagues any objections, I will move that we waive 11-Z DCMR 304.11 and 500.7, and ask for a second. COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Second.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: It's been moved and properly second. Any further discussion?

VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I would just say, Mr. Chairman, that to the extent there's any technical defect in the notice requirement, it's clear that there's been a lot of actual notice of this issue and case based on not only the -- well, for us, based on the record and the information that we've received from people who don't want us to set it down.

People know about this case going forward. There
-- this is just to, to, to set it down. There's a lot of
information in the Office of Planning's 78-page report, 43
pages of actual report and 35 pages I think of attachments,

all of which I enjoyed reading, I think. So, and -- and the people, the stakeholders, the residents, are very aware of this case. And we, and we want to hear the results of that survey, and we will need to be having a hearing well before any, any results with that and then any official ANC resolution comes in.

We don't have official ANC resolution before us in this set down hearing. We have three commissioners who've asked for us to postpone, and I understand the reasons for the postponement, but I think their concerns can be accommodated. The continued community engagement can, can go on, even if we set it down for a hearing in -- sometime in early 2024.

So the merits of going forward with a set down based on all the information provided by Office of Planning about its consistency with all these comprehensive plan policies, including the future land use map, the housing, affordable housing policies, the Chevy Chase Area, Small Area Plan policies, the Rock Creek West framework roadmap and the Housing Equity Report of the mayor, I think justify us to at least at this point set it down, or at least not --waive the technical, what might have been a technical notice issue, it was provided to the Chair and that she's been in contact with -- in communication with her colleagues throughout this process.

1 So I'm prepared to support your motion, Mr. 2 Chairman. CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Any other comments? 3 4 All right. It's been moved and I think properly 5 Ms. Schellin, would you do a roll call vote? second. MS. SCHELLIN: Sure. Commissioner Hood? 6 7 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes. MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Stidham? 8 9 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes. 10 MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Imamura? 11 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yes. 12 MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Miller. 13 VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes. 14 MS. SCHELLIN: The vote is four to zero to one to approve the waiver of those two notice requirements, the 15 16 minus one being the third mayoral appointee seat, which is 17 vacant. Thank you. 18 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Ms. Brown-Roberts, I want to ask this question of you, not for you to answer. I want to 19 20 ask this for the public, because if we, we get to a hearing, 21 you know, if, if we set it down and we get to a hearing, I 22 want to ask you this. I've been -- what I'm starting to see is a trend. 23 24 Every time there is something done in West, Rock 25 Creek West, there's always much, much opposition, and I want

1 to submit that to the, to the residents of Rock Creek West. 2 The whole other city, we're trying to make it affordable for 3 people to live in. What is it about affordable housing that Rock Creek West -- and I know this is probably going to get 4 me -- get -- they're going to come after me, but that's 5 fine. I'm used to it now. 6 7 What is it about Rock Creek West, and always there's a problem? And not -- this is not my first time 8 9 saying it. It's always a problem with affordable housing. 10 What is it really that's trying to happen there? And I'm 11 making no accusation. I'm just curious. I know there's 12 some -- maybe some zoning issues. But it's -- whenever it's affordable housing, I notice there is a lot of opposition 13 14 that gets drummed up. And that's not a question for Office of Planning. 15 That's for the public. So I will be asking that question as 16 17 -- if we move, if it's set down as we move forward. Let me 18 see if others have a question or comment. 19 Commissioner Imamura? 20 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: No questions or comments. Ms. Brown-Roberts, thank you for your very detailed report 21 22 and I look forward to setting this down, and if you so 23 choose, hearing more information at the hearing. Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And Commissioner

MS. BROWN-ROBERTS: Thank you.

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Stidham?
1
 2
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Nothing for me. Thank you,
 3
    Ms. Roberts, for your report, greatly appreciated it.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And Vice Chair Miller.
 4
 5
              VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: No further comments, Mr.
 6
    Chairman. I think I said what I needed to say. Thank you.
 7
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. So without further
    ado, I will move that we set down Zoning Commission case
8
9
    number 23-25, and as I stated previously there will continue
10
    to be plenty of engagement and, and surveys and everything
    that the community has will be heard by this Commission.
11
12
    It's been moved and properly second. Did I do that -- no, I
13
    didn't.
14
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: No, nobody second it, Mr.
15
    Chairman.
16
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Oh, okay.
17
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: I'll second it for you,
18
    though.
19
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: No, it hadn't been second.
20
    Okay. Thank you, Commissioner Imamura. Moved and properly
    second. Any further discussion?
21
22
              Not hearing any, Ms. Schellin, would you record
    the vote, please?
23
24
              MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. And is the Commission setting
25
    this down as a rulemaking case?
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1	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Was, was it a rulemaking? Was
2	it yeah, a rulemaking.
3	MS. SCHELLIN: Yes.
4	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes.
5	MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. I just want to confirm that.
6	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
7	MS. SCHELLIN: So Commissioner Hood?
8	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes.
9	MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Imamura?
10	COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yes.
11	MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Miller?
12	VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.
13	MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Stidham?
14	COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes.
15	MS. SCHELLIN: The vote is four to zero to one to
16	set down Zoning Commission case number 23-25 as a rulemaking
17	case, the minus one being the third mayoral appointee seat,
18	which is vacant. Thank you.
19	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. I was about to end it,
20	but I think we had one more thing I didn't think
21	correspondence. Thank you, Ms. Brown-Roberts.
22	Correspondence. Zoning Commission case number 89-
23	7, 1200 K Street, K Street I Company, LLC, and 1200 K Street
24	I'm sorry I Company, LLC, & 1200 K Street II Company,
25	LLC- Motion to Extinguish PUD.

1 Ms. Schellin. 2 MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. This PUD is fully 3 constructed, and all of their obligations have been satisfied. As you stated, this is 89-7, and this is a case 4 5 from 1989, which authorized the construction of a 12-story commercial office building with street level retail and 6 7 below grade parking. So they are requesting to extinguish the PUD, which will allow them for the conversion of the 8 property from office to residential use and to proceed with 9 10 a matter of right property within the D5, the underlying D5 11 zoning. 12 The applicant intends to transfer ownership of the property to Post Brothers, who will then proceed with the 13 conversion to the residential use, and so that is what they 14 are asking for, is to extinguish this PUD. 15 16 And I'll turn it over to you guys. And I will say 17 that Zachary Williams is available if there are any 18 questions. Thank you. 19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Schellin, 20 for teeing that up. Let me start off with Commissioner 21 Imamura. 22 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ι

think this is pretty straightforward and I'm prepared to

I don't really have any, anything to add to the

23

24

25

record.

1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Commissioner Stidham.
2 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Nothing to add either, and
3 I'm ready to support this as well.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And Vice Chair Miller.

VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes. Mr. Chairman, thank you. I agree that the applicant has set aside the regulations that the motion, that this motion of expungement of the PUD, of this old PUD be served on parties, and the parties have had seven days to respond and that we -- I don't think we received anything from the ANC in response to that motion. The applicant has fulfilled its obligations under that old PUD approval.

That, that building, that office building at 1200 K is vacant now, has been vacant, and they want to sell the property. So can it be developed as a matter of right conversion to residential development downtown, which our regulations permit, which I think is -- would be a good thing for downtown, both at this site and generally.

So I support this -- would support a -- the motion to expunge the PUD, it having -- all of its conditions have being satisfied, and note that the grant to the motion if we give it, if we grant it, that -- and release the PUD covenant are continued on two conditions, which may have been already mentioned, the sale of the property and surrender -- that the applicant has asked for this, that the

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-- that their requested expungement of the PUD be continued
 1
 2
    upon the sale of their property to the developer that's
    going to convert it to residential, and surrender of the
 3
    certificates of occupancy for the property's office use.
 4
 5
              And we can grant -- we can give OZLD, our legal
    counsel, discretion to work out that final language with the
 6
 7
    applicant as to how we expunde the order. So that's a long
    way of saying I agree.
 8
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So we'll take that, Vice
9
10
    Chair, as a motion. Is there a second?
11
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA:
                                     Second.
12
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. It's been moved and
    properly second. Any further discussion?
13
14
              Not hearing any, Ms. Schellin, would you do a roll
    call vote, please?
15
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Miller?
16
17
              VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.
18
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Imamura?
19
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yes.
20
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Hood?
21
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes.
22
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Stidham?
23
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes.
24
              MS. SCHELLIN: The vote is four to zero to one to
25
    approve the extinguishment of the PUD in Zoning Commission
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case number 89-7, the minus one being the third mayoral
 1
 2
    appointee seat, which is vacant. Thank you.
 3
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Ms. Schellin, do we have
    anything else before us this evening?
 4
 5
              MS. SCHELLIN: Nothing else.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. I want to thank
 6
 7
    everyone for their participation in this meeting and my
    colleagues for all the work that they do, and everyone who
 8
    helped us get ready for this. But let me first say that the
9
10
    Zoning Commission will meet again on November the 13th, 350
11
    Morse CPK Owner C2, LLC, on the same platform, Zoning
12
    Commission case number 15-27G.
              Again, I thank everyone and I hope -- we want to
13
14
    thank all of our veterans and thank you for your service.
    Hold one second, make sure I'm not leaving anything out. I
15
16
    get pinged every so often.
17
              VICE CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Like, holding on one
    second, happy birthday, Ms. Schellin, tomorrow.
18
19
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. So, yeah,
20
    happy birthday, Ms. Schellin. You want us to sing before we
21
    adjourn?
22
              MS. SCHELLIN:
                             That's okay.
23
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: It won't sound that good after
24
    that, so, anyway. Hope everybody will have --
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MS. SCHELLIN: That's okay. I appreciate it.

	II	
1		CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right.
2		MS. SCHELLIN: Thank you guys.
3		CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Hope everybody have a great
4	weekend.	Take care.
5		MS. SCHELLIN: Thank you.
6		CHAIRPERSON HOOD: This meeting's adjourned.
7		(Whereupon, the above-entitled meeting was
8	adjourned	.)
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1	REPORTER CERTIFICATE
2	
3	This is to certify that the foregoing transcript
4	In the matter of: Public Meeting
5	Before: D.C. Zoning Commission
6	Date: 11-09-2023
7	Place: Virtual Hearing via Webex
8	was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my
9	direction; further, that said transcript is a true and
10	accurate record of the proceedings.
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14	Dary Thell
15	Gary Euell
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