GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ZONING COMMISSION

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

VIA WEBEX

MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024

The Public Hearing by the District of Columbia Zoning Commission convened via videoconference pursuant to notice at 4:04 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 MIKE SAKINEJAD, Data Specialist

OFFICE OF ZONING LEGAL DIVISION STAFF PRESENT:

HILLARY LOVICK, Esquire

The transcript constitutes the minutes from the Public Hearing held on July 15, 2024.

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Introduction and Preliminary Matters	5
Case No. 24-02 Map Amendment from PDR-1 and RA-1 to MU-5B, Deanwood Metrorail Parking Lot (Sq. 5123 Lots 1-9, 35, 800, and 801; Sq. 5170 Lots 9,	
10, 809; and PAR 0184 0100) - Ward 76	6

PROCEEDINGS

2		(4:04	p.m.
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CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Today's date is July the 15th, 2024 and the time now is 4:04 p.m. We're convening a broadcast in this public meeting by videoconferencing. My name is Anthony Hood and I'm joined by Vice Chair Miller, Commissioner Stidham and Commissioner Imamura, as well as Office of Zoning Staff, Ms. Sharon Schellin and Mr. Sakinejad -- well, I hope I didn't mess that up, but either way, Mike, forgive me, I've already asked for forgiveness. We're also joined by the Office of Zoning Legal Attorney, Ms. Hilary Lovick.

I will ask all others to introduce themselves at the appropriate time. The virtual public hearing notice is available on the Office of Zoning's website. This proceeding is being recorded by a court reporter and the platforms used are WebEx or YouTube live. The video will be available on the Office of Zoning's website after the hearing. All persons planning to testify should've signed up in advance and will be called by name at the appropriate time. At the time of signup, all participants will complete the oath or affirmation required by Subtitle Z-4 8.7.

Accordingly, all those listening on WebEx or by phone will be muted during the hearing and only those who have signed up to participate or testify will be unmuted at

the appropriate times. When called, please state your name
before providing your testimony. When you are finished
speaking, please mute your audio. If you are -- if you
experience difficulty accessing WebEx or with your telephone
call-in or have not signed up, I believe we have a different
number tonight, please call our OZ hotline number at 202-

727-5471.

If you wish to file written testimony or additional supporting documents during the hearing, then please be prepared to describe and discuss it at the time of your testimony.

The subject of this evening's hearing is Zoning Commission Case No. 24-02, for WMATA map amendment at Square 5123, Lots 1 through 9, 35, 800 and 801, Square 5170, Lots 9, 10, 809, 814, Parcel 01840100 and at the Deanwood Metro Rail Parking Lot. Again, today's date is July the 15th, 2024.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with revisions of 11-D CMR Chapter 4, as follows: Preliminary matters, Applicant case, I think the Applicant has asked for up to 25 minutes, probably can do it a little faster, just hit the highlights. We will have report of government agencies, report of Department of Transportation, Office of Planning, report of the ANC, testimony of the organizations and individuals. Organizations, five minutes; individuals

three minutes. Then we will have the rebuttal and closing by the Applicant. Again, the OZ hotline number is 202-727for any concerns during this proceeding.

At this time, the Commission will consider any preliminary matters. Does the staff have any preliminary matters?

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

MS. SCHELLIN: Just very quickly, there's one proffered expert witness from the Applicant, Shane Dettman, who's previously been accepted, so we just ask the Commission to accept him in this case, also.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Any objections? Not hearing, we will continue that status.

MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. And then also, we have ANC 7C, Antawan Holmes. I don't have a report in the record for ANC 7C. The last thing we had was just their setOdown report. So if he's going to be testifying, we don't have a report giving him authority to do so, so hopefully if he's here, he'll have a report.

And then Dave Lewis is representing the Applicant, along with his colleague, Derick Wallace and so I think they are going to take 20 to 25 minutes and the OP Hearing Report is at Exhibit 24 in support; DDOT Report at Exhibit 25 with no objections, and I believe those were the only Agency reports in the record and this is ready for the Commission

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to move forward, unless the Applicant has a preliminary
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    matter they want to bring up.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Before we go to the
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    Applicant, I think Mr. Holmes has been authorized -- I think
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    he's a chair, anyway, I believe, but I think he has been
    authorized to represent ANC 7C, but we'll -- either way, Mr.
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    Holmes, don't worry, we will hear from you.
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              All right. Mr. Lewis?
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              MR. LEWIS: Can you all hear us?
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We can hear you now, yes.
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    you all in the same room?
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              MR. LEWIS: We are. Yes, sir.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: You have one computer?
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              MR. LEWIS: We have one audio line.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, okay. Well, let's see
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    how that goes, okay. Go right ahead.
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                           CASE NO. 24-02
              MR. LEWIS: Okay. Good afternoon, Commissioners.
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    My name is Dave Lewis.
                            I'm an attorney with the Law Firm of
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    Goulston and Storrs, here today on behalf of the Applicant,
    WMATA. And as Michelle mentioned, I'm joined by my
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    colleague, Derick Wallace of Goulston and Storrs. Also with
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    me is Howard Ways, who's the senior development manager at
    WMATA and our expert in land planning, Shane Dettman, who
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    you all know. Thank you for the opportunity to present this
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application and for your time reviewing our materials.
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              Mike, if you don't mind pulling up our
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    presentation, we'd appreciate that. But we'll get going
    while that's happening. Today's subject --
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Mr. Lewis, may I ask you a
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    question?
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              MR. LEWIS: Yes, sir.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Do you all have any opposition
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    in this case?
              MR. LEWIS: Not formally, no. We have a letter of
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    support from ANC 7C. That was sent at like 3:50-something
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    this afternoon and it went to BZA submissions, so I
    forwarded it to Ms. Schellin maybe ten minutes ago.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So Ms. Schellin, let's
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    put that in the record. Again, I know a lot of times we get
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    confused. Okay. I just wonder why we need 25 minutes, but
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    I'm not going to interrupt that.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: I'm sorry. What was that that you
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    just submitted?
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              MR. LEWIS: So Chairman Holmes forwarded you the
    ANC 7C report about ten minutes ago.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. I didn't see it in the
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    record, so --
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              MR. LEWIS: Well, he sent it to BZA submissions.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: That's the problem.
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              MR. LEWIS: Yeah. So I forwarded it to you.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. We'll get it and we will
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    open the record for that, okay. I mean we will receive
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    that. All right.
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              MR. LEWIS: So there's also -- there's also a
    report, as mentioned, from the Deanwood Citizens
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    Association. That did not make it into the record in time,
    either. I believe --
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              MS. SCHELLIN: The Commission has to approve that
    because they submitted less than 24 hours, so I need the
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    Commission to approve that letter and the library letter
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    before I can put those in. The ANC I have no problem, but
    the other two, I need the Commission to approve because they
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    submitted it less than 24 hours.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So let me see, I can't -- I
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    need to pinpoint everybody. I can't see everybody right
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    now, but I will in a minute. But any objections?
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    have any, I can't see you right now, just let me know.
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    Speak up. If not, we will accept all of it. Okay.
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              So Ms. Schellin, we will -- we will take
    everything in the record and let the record reflect I can
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    see all my colleagues now.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Okay.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, Mr. Lewis, you may begin.
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    I won't hold you up anymore.
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MR. LEWIS: That's okay. And Mr. Hood, to your question, we're not aware of opposition. The DCA letters says it's in support. We've had great conversations with the DCA. I understand from Ms. Ackerman that Javi Sanchez, on behalf of the DCA signed up in opposition, so that's a little bit of news to us. But that's why we're prepared to give you a 25-minute version of this presentation and then I guess we'll hear from Mr. Sanchez. But our understanding, as of 9:00 this morning, is that the DCA is in support.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Well, I won't prolong anymore. You all may -- you may begin.

MR. LEWIS: Okay. Thank you. Mike, if you could go to the next slide, please. Thank you. So the subject of today's property or today's application is several lots that WMATA owns at the Deanwood Metro Rail Station, bounded by Minnesota Avenue Northeast and Quarrel (phonetic) Street Northeast in Ward 7. And the Applicant requests a rezoning form the existing PER1 and RA1 to MU-5B.

This application is, at its core, a comprehensive plan and small area plan consistency case. As you see in our materials, the future land use map designation for this site is mixed use, medium density residential, low density commercial and local public facilities. The current PDR zone does not permit any meaningful residential use and the RA-1 zone does not permit any meaningful commercial use.

The proposed MU-5B zone permits both consistent with the future land use map. Mike, if you could go to the next slide, please. Thank you.

This map amendment advances the number of transitoriented development and other objectives of the comp plan,
which my colleague, Mr. Dettman, will discuss in his portion
of the presentation. This application also advances other
adopted public policies relevant to the subject site and I
just want to take a moment to summarize some of those to set
the stage. If you could go to the next slide, Mike.

For starters, the Deanwood Metro Rail Station is called out in WMATA's 10-year strategic plan. There is not yet a specific joint development project for this site, other than a new branch of the public library, which we'll talk about in a second, but this map amendment is the next step in a planning and development process that will lead to a new mixed use development at the Metro Rail Station.

Significantly, this is one of the top priority sites for WMATA in the District, per its 10-year plan and is located in what is called an equity emphasis area, where WMATA is devoting its resources, public resources to areas that have been under invested for far too long. So this application is consistent with WMATA's plan. Next slide, please, Mike.

In addition to WMATA's plan, there's also the DC

Public Library Facilities Plan and the Mayor's Fiscal Year
'25 Budget, both of which call for, and importantly
allocate, roughly \$24 million for the construction of a new
library on the park and ride parking lot at the Deanwood

5 Metro Rail Station.

This application is consistent with the DCPL plan, too. This application is also consistent with the Mayor's housing goals in the Housing Equity Report from OP. This is a map amendment from a site that is zoned PDR-1. WMATA did a lot of public outreach, which Mr. Ways will discuss, and one of the points that was made many times from members of the community is that there is a lot of affordable housing and public housing in and around Deanwood, and what is really needed is additional market rate housing.

So this application does not seek the IZ+
designation for this site, consistent with OP's
recommendations. We're happy to discuss that in more
detail, if necessary, because we know that's often the focus
of the Commission and that's something that's frankly fairly
unique about this application, but we are in alignment with
OP on this point.

Finally, this application is consistent with the racial equity goals of the comp plan. Mr. Dettman will cover this in more detail in his comments as well, but I wanted to call to the Commission's attention what a robust

and meaningful job WMATA has done soliciting input from the community, meeting with folks from the community and making changes and adopting comments from the community.

Before WMATA even filed this map amendment application, it undertook a robust public outreach process to gather information, host community members, et cetera, and then use the feedback from that process to decide whether to move forward with the map amendment and then, if so, to figure out exactly which zone was appropriate, given the comments received from the public. That outreach has continued over the past year and we've outlined all of it in our updated racial equity tool response, which is at Exhibit 23C.

In working to satisfy the procedural and substantive equity goals of the comp plan, that doesn't mean that there aren't occasionally areas where people within the community want different things or have asked for things that aren't typically part of a map amendment. But there's been conversation. There's been true consideration by WMATA of community feedback and input. And I am certain that WMATA wants to do the right thing as a development partner for the Deanwood community.

One thing there was broad agreement on here is that the surface parking lot next to the Metro Rail Station is not the best thing for Deanwood and it should be

- 1 redeveloped. This map amendment is the next step in 2 realizing that consensus. And if you could go to the next 3 slide, please, Mike. I think probably one -- thank you, 4 yes. 5 We're pleased to be here with a report in support of the application from the Office of Planning at Exhibit 6 24, a report of no objection from DDOT, Exhibit 25. And as 7 mentioned at the outset, we have a letter of support from DC 8 Public Library. We've had many positive conversations with 9 ANC 7C and, in particular, Chairman Holmes, over the past 10 11 many months, including most recently this past Thursday when
- ANC 7C voted to support this application, and we're
 delighted to have the ANC's support. We also have support
 from the Deanwood Citizen's Association in the form of an
 initial letter at Exhibit 13 and then the supplemental
 letter that was introduced today, which we discussed at the
 - So my final comment before I turn it over to Mr. Ways, we have two witnesses this afternoon, Mr. Ways, on behalf of WMATA, and Mr. Dettman, our expert in land planning, and with that, I'd like to turn the presentation over to Mr. Ways to introduce himself and talk about WMATA's vision for the site, the RFP process and community outreach.
 - Mr. Ways? Is Mr. Ways a panelist?
- MR. WAYS: Hello, can folks hear me?

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outset.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes, we can hear you.

that we've submitted.

MR. WAYS: Oh, excellent. Good afternoon, Zoning Commission. My name is Howard Ways. I am a senior development manager working for WMATA. I have been with the Agency for a little more than a year. Prior to that, I worked for a number of years in DC Government at the Office of Planning, the Deputy Mayor's Office for Economic Development. I worked in Prince George's County as the executive director of the redevelopment authority and before I was at WMATA, I was the chief of operations at the District Department of Transportation. I'm really excited to present this project to you all and make the request for the map amendment, support the map amendment application

And I'm really excited about presenting this development opportunity here at the Deanwood Metro Station. The slide in front of you shows an aerial image of the site in question. To the right, upper right corner, you see the surface parking lot. Next to that, you see the bus, bus loop and kiss and ride parking lot sort of immediately in front of the station entrance. And just to the right of that, you see the Deanwood Community Center. And just south of that, you see the Ron Brown High School. So that's the neighborhood context and this is an excellent opportunity for the surface parking lot to be repurposed in a way that

helps to fulfill the hopes and aspirations of the Deanwood community and also making sure that what we do is consistent with not only the comprehensive plan but the small area plan for the Deanwood community. Next slide, please.

These are some imagery from the site. As you can gather from these photographs, it's a relatively flat site adjacent to not only the WMATA rail line but also the CSX rail line on Minnesota Avenue. You see in Slide No. 1 or Photo No. 1 the exit from the bus loop, various crosswalks in the neighborhood and you see a slide -- I guess it's Slide 6 or Photo 6, an imagery of the rail line, the CSX rail line that runs immediately adjacent to the site. Next slide, please.

As David mentioned, Deanwood is one of the stations that was identified in the WMATA 10-year strategic plan that was approved by a board nearly two years ago. And in that plan, it called for an accelerated joint development process, one that would repurpose underutilized land around WMATA stations for various uses. And the term joint development really is a Federal Transit Administration terminology that is used for projects much like this. It's really essentially land that was originally acquired for the purpose of supporting public transportation being repurposed for economic development purposes, so that is what we're trying to do here.

We've been told by FTA that we have the most robust joint development plan or history of any transit agency in the United States. And per the strategic plan, look to accelerate those benefits and bring more of those benefits to neighborhood oriented stations. Much of the previous work happened in downtown areas or higher density areas around commercial development. The 10-year strategic plan moves us into more neighborhood-oriented stations such as Deanwood. What you see on this slide are the four priority strategies, along with supporting actions. All of which are proposed here at the Deanwood Station. Next slide, please.

I thought my camera was on. I apologize. I don't see a button that's on my camera. I'll keep talking while I get some assistance on figuring out how to turn my camera So this slide reflects the proposed changes the WMATA board has approved for the Deanwood Station. And that process starts with -- well, it starts with a public hearing known as the WMATA Compact Hearing. We held that hearing back in July of 2023. I'll talk in more detail about that during the next slide, but the slide here really goes to the time horizon of the start of the compact hearing process, we applied for the map amendment in January of 2024. We've also begun a solicitation process through a joint development solicitation that was advertised publicly back

1 in June and we anticipate if all goes well and we select the 2 right developer, there are no market hiccups, the economy improves, that there's an anticipation that the best case scenario, you can see in 2026, the actual start of 4 construction on this joint development site as well as completion of the joint development project sometime around 7 2028. Next slide, please.

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A little bit more about the compact hearing. one of the things that we changed in our process at WMATA is we're doing much more community engagement and planning prior to the release of a solicitation. So previous efforts, you know, much of the outreach and engagement really wasn't started and initiated until a developer was selected. We've decided -- and especially -- we think it's especially important at WMATA, especially since we're moving towards more neighborhood-focused stations is to engage the community much earlier in the joint development process. the first step in that process is to determine the best way that the station could be repurposed in a way that promotes economic development outcomes.

And so that process starts with the compact hearing that we held back in July of last year, which led to a series of recommendations from the community. We've had a very robust engagement process mailing out postcards, providing fliers and hosting the hearing on July 11, and the

result of that is that we received 100 comments regarding the future of the mixed use development concept. There was overwhelming support for that. As you see on the slide, 86 percent of the comments supported that.

We had a lot of comments that supported the inclusion of a grocery store as part of this mixed use development opportunity, as well as a strong support for additional housing with special emphasis on market rate housing. You know, the belief is that given the enormous challenges that brick and mortar retail has today with internet commerce, it's really important to make sure that there is an appropriate amount of density around retail sites in order for those retail sites to attract a strong customer base. And the community, you can see from the comments, I think understands the importance of having, you know, that type of residential density to support commercial development.

And then lastly, very strong support for the idea of having a full service community library branch here at Deanwood. My first job in Washington D.C. was the planner for Ward 7 and I remember very distinctly working with the Deanwood community about having a library branch larger than the 120-square foot kiosk that was once there at the Marvin Gaye Park. So in many ways, for me, this is really coming full circle to see aspirations go from discussions of a full

service library to the execution of an actual branch here at the Deanwood Metro Station. Next slide.

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So this is a timeline that really lays out the community engagement we've had as part of the map amendment process. And as you can see, it might be a little hard to read on your screen, the text is a little small, but the gist of this is it shows a fairly rigorous and robust community engagement process. We have gone to several ANC meetings. We have gone to several Deanwood Citizens Association meetings. We've had meetings with the leadership of those organizations. WMATA held a community open house. You know, we sent out postcards, had fliers. We thank the Deanwood Citizens Association and ANC for distributing fliers through their networks. In order for there to be wide outreach in the Deanwood Community so folks are more than well aware of the opportunity and the effort to bring the kind of economic development that is so desired in Deanwood.

So we direct the engagement of those organizations during this process and, you know, WMATA's commitment is to continue that engagement throughout the solicitation process, the design, construction and ultimate operations of whatever gets constructed here ultimately. Next slide.

And this slide shows some examples of the, you know, literature that was created. We have fliers, both in

English and in Spanish that went out. We sent out over

1,000 postcards as part of the map amendment outreach. As I

mentioned before, we hosted a community open house at the

community center. You see a photograph of that at the

bottom of the screen. So, you know, I'm very proud of the

work that we've done at WMATA. We listened to the

community.

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As part of the RFP process, we included not on the priorities from the small area plan, but also included, you know, documentation from both the ANC and the Civic Association with their priorities -- Citizens Association with their priorities so that the developers who were considering responding to the solicitation know well upfront what the Deanwood community's priorities are and our expectation is that developers will respond in a positive way to those priorities in addition to providing a community engagement strategy. One of the requirements of the solicitation is to each respondent to provide a community engagement strategy and, again, from WMATA's perspective, that engagement goes from the solicitation all the way through to the ultimate operations of the development. we feel that the community will always have a seat at the table, both the ANC and the Citizens Association, and as I told them, this is really the start of a long term relationship. And I am really thankful to the leadership of

- both organizations for support of this project and look
 forward to continued engagement as we move forward. Next
 slide.
- MR. DETTMAN: Thank you, Howard and good

 afternoon, Commissioners. My testimony today will walk

 through the proposal's satisfaction of the standard of

 review that's applicable to a zoning map amendment, which is

 stated before you on the slide here. I won't go ahead and

 read it. Next slide.

As you know, in accordance with the comp plan, the Commission must conduct its comp plan evaluations applicable to the zoning map amendments using the racial equity lens, which is discussed in the comprehensive plan in terms of both an outcome and a process. As demonstrated in the case record at Exhibits 2A2 and 2C, upon evaluation of the proposed rezoning, I would respectfully submit that the proposal is not inconsistent with the comp plan when read as a whole through a racial equity lens. Consistent with the Commission's racial equity tool, WMATA has conducted extensive meaningful engagement with the ANC, the Citizens Association and residents and stakeholders not only on this specific proposal but as Mr. Ways just described, also through its compact hearing process that began back in July of 2023.

In terms of outcomes, the proposed rezoning will

help address some of the planning and development priorities
expressed by the community and set forth in the comp plan,
particularly as they relate to encouraging more equitable
distribution of affordable housing, support for better
neighborhood serving amenities in underserved areas and
addressing deficiencies in civic facilities and
appropriately scaled transit-oriented development.

Finally, as discussed in our detailed written evaluation, we identified a few potential inconsistencies with policies and actions in the housing and urban design elements. While we believe we've made the case that the proposed rezoning is not inconsistent with these particular comp plan provisions, to the extent the Commission finds otherwise, we believe that any of those inconsistencies would be far outweighed by other competing comp plan policies in the land use, transportation, housing, economic development, as well as the far northeast and southeast elements.

In the interest of time, we did not include specific slides addressing these potential inconsistencies, but we are fully prepared, in response to questions by the Commission, to fully address any questions around potential inconsistencies that are discussed in our written filings. Next slide.

I'll start off quickly by looking at a -- by

making a comparison of the existing proposed zoning for the site. As we'll see, when addressing the FLUM, the existing zoning for this site is inconsistent with the land use designation that was adopted by the council in 2021, which supports mixed use development with an emphasis on residential use. Currently, the site is primarily zoned PDR-1, which does not support the type of mixed use development that the FLUM in the comprehensive plan envisions. Further, the small portion of the site that's zoned RA-1 does not allow mixed use development in that it only allows residential use and no commercial use. proposed MU-5B zone will resolve this inconsistency. slide.

The site is within the neighborhood enhancement area on the generalized policy map. And the GPM also envisions the Deanwood Station as a new neighborhood center. Under the framework element, a neighborhood enhancement area can have substantial amounts of vacant and underutilized land, such as the case with this site, that present opportunities for compatible infill development, including new residential and mixed use buildings. New housing is encouraged in these areas, in accordance with the FLUM and applicable comp plan policy guidance.

A neighborhood center is described as an area that meets the day-to-day needs of residents and workers in

adjacent neighborhoods. Typical uses could include

convenience stores, small neighborhood markets,

supermarkets, branch banks, restaurants and basic services.

Office space can be found in these areas, but it's small

office space that can be found typically at ground floor

6 office space with above story residential uses.

The proposed rezoning to MU-5B is not inconsistent with the GPM as it will support redevelopment on the site with new mixed use development containing ground floor and neighborhood serving retail and service uses and residential use that will enhance the area. It will also facilitate the construction of a new standalone Deanwood Public Library, as was discussed by Mr. Ways. Next slide.

The proposal is also not inconsistent with the site's mixed use, low density commercial, medium density residential local public facility designation on the FLUM. As you know, mixed use is a specific land use designation on the FLUM and the density and intensity of development within these types of areas is determined by the specific mix of uses that's shown in the striping, with additional guidance provided by area elements, as well as applicable small area plans, which we have in this case. The FLUM envisions medium density mixed use development with an expressed preference for residential over commercial that could be collocated with local public facilities, like in this case

with the existing bus transit facility.

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The MU-5B zone is not inconsistent with this 3 designation when read together with the policies and other applicable plans. Just as the FLUM envisions, the MU-5B 4 zone permits medium density mixed use development with an emphasis on residential use and permits neighborhood serving 7 uses, such as shopping and business needs that are appropriate for neighborhoods outside the central core. Next slide.

From a technical perspective, we can see here that the density permitted in the MU-5B zone is consistent with typical matter of right density envisioned by the FLUM, as it's described in the framework element. Generally speaking, the FLUM contemplates medium density mixed use development up to about a 4.0 FAR with greater density permitted under IZ or a PUD, right in line with this guidance, the MU-5B zone permits a matter of right density of 3.5 FAR, 4.2 with IZ, with a limit on nonresidential uses to 1.5 FAR. Next slide.

I know in prior cases, the Commission has inquired of the Applicant about how we arrived at the zone that we were currently pursuing. We looked at a range of zones that potentially could be deemed to be not inconsistent with the comprehensive plan and the future land use map. You can see the range of zones that we looked at here. And as I

mentioned, the FLUM contemplates medium density mixed use development, which under the framework element could tell you that, you know, we could be pursuing MU-8 and MU-10 in this area. The framework element describes MU-8 and MU-10 as medium density zones, mixed use zones and you can see the densities would fall within those as well for the four to six.

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However, we're pursuing arguably what would be considered under the framework element as a moderate density mixed use zone and we think that's the right zone for a couple of reasons. One being, you know, the market demand that WMATA sees for a potential mixed use development in this area. We also think that the FAR and the height permitted under the MU-5B is the right zone, given the surrounding context of the site. When looking at, you know, MU-5 or MU-7, we went with the MU-5B because we saw a need for the height that was allowed under the MU-5B, as opposed to the additional density that we could've gotten through the MU-7 zone. We want retail at this site to be good retail. And so what we opted for for the MU-5B is a little bit of additional height to allow that ground floor retail height to have a slightly higher floor to ceiling without having to take that height out of the residential that's above that. Next slide.

If we look at the policy guidance, it all sort of

1 lends itself to, again, the MU-5B zone, allowing for, you 2 know, that type of density and mixed use development. 3 far northeast and southeast area element has specific 4 policies about Deanwood and has a Deanwood policy focus area, which talks about mixed use development consisting of medium density housing and low density commercial uses. And 7 there's also a policy that encourages the development of a variety of neighborhood-serving commercial uses along certain corridors, such as Minnesota Avenue. Next slide.

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The proposed zone is also consistent with the Deanwood Small Area Plan. The small area plan identifies five focus notes, and you can see here, they're listed here. Deanwood Metro being one of them. And the slide summarizes the type and intensity of commercial development that's envisioned for each node under the small area plan. So, for example, the node at Minnesota Avenue and Benning, which the small area plan calls Downtown Ward 7, describes it as the commercial heart and destination for Deanwood, that node is envisioned for a civic or government center, shopping and entertainment, housing uses. This is the node where DCGS recently relocated its headquarters. It contains the East River Park Shopping Center, which his planned for a major redevelopment, which is referred to as the Northeast Heights Town Center. So sort of certainly, I have your commercial component at that node.

In contrast, the small area plan envisions

Deanwood for having a much smaller commercial component,

specifically, the small area plan supports multifamily

housing with only minor convenience retail serving transit

commuters and residents. Next slide.

Here's just a couple additional slides with some notable excerpts from the small area plan, again, talking about the Deanwood node as a prime opportunity for future mixed use development. It's seen as having limited traffic exposure with little pedestrian activity, resulting in no significant generator for retail demand, other than Metro itself and even that is relatively low, given the low ridership at the station. And finally, the small area plan sees this site as being ripe for a land use change from light industrial to moderate to medium density mixed use, providing additional housing and minor retail. Again, so it's all sort of lending itself to this MU-5B zone, which favors residential with some smaller density commercial use. Next slide.

This is just more of the same on the small area plan, again, looking at multifamily housing, limited retail use. Next slide.

The last couple slides I have, Mr. Chairman, address the Commission's racial equity tool. It's a fourpart tool, as you know. Next slide. With the first part

requiring applicants to consider the comp plan policy guidance that's provided as applicable to the proposed rezoning. We've conducted an exhaustive review. It's set forth in written filings and what the policy guidance says, as it applies to this proposed rezoning, is that it will substantially advance comprehensive plan policies related to development around Metro, infill development while maintaining a variety of neighborhoods and achievement of housing production goals as well as promoting equitable access to transportation.

As I mentioned, we've also prepared a thorough evaluation of potential comp plan inconsistencies. We note them in our written filings and we're prepared to fully address them if the Commission so chooses. Next slide.

Mr. Ways already talked about the extensive and meaningful public engagement that's occurred on this zoning proposal. As was mentioned, 14 meetings took place with the ANC, the Deanwood Citizens Association as well as residents and other organizations, since we filed the application in - since the initial engagement with the ANC in early January.

Finally, the racial equity tool -- next slide -- requires applicants to evaluate a zoning action through a number of equitable development indicators looking at direct and indirect displacement. We don't -- there will be no

direct displacement of residents or businesses, as there's none on the site. Indirect displacement is not anticipated to occur with the proposed rezoning, given the percent of homeownership in the area, as well as trends in income, unemployment rate, poverty level, as well as housing cost It'll have a positive impact on housing with additional housing in close proximity to Metro. That's both market rate as well as affordable housing with the regular IZ.

And we anticipate that there'll be substantial improvements to the public realm with pedestrian safety along Minnesota Avenue, improve stormwater management and certainly access to opportunity with construction jobs, new job opportunities in retail, residential build management, the public library, as well as the access to additional jobs elsewhere with the new residential in close proximity to transit. Next slide.

And so with that, I would simply say -- I won't go through this slide in detail, but say that the proposed rezoning does meet the standard of review under the zoning regulations and that it is not inconsistent with the comprehensive plan when read with the racial equity lens as well as consistent with the Deanwood Small Area Plan and the purposes of the Zoning Act. And with that, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate your time and hand it back to Dave for closing.

MR. LEWIS: Thanks very much, Mr. Dettman. I'd like to reiterate that WMATA has already committed the land to the District for DCPL to build a new full size branch of the library in Deanwood. I know the Commission generally doesn't talk about specific projects as part of a map amendment and map amendments don't include discussion of "public benefits," but the new library branch is such an important element of the future of the Deanwood Metro Rail Station that it's worth mentioning because I know the Commission cares what impacts these map amendments have and this one has a very positive impact.

The success of expanding the Deanwood branch of the library is a testament not only to WMATA working with the highest levels of the District government, but also to the advocacy and vision of Chairman Holmes, ANC7C, the Citizens Association and all the folks in the community who are working so hard for the good of their neighbors. Beyond the DCPL facility, this map amendment facilitates future mixed use development of Deanwood and it's still far too early to know exactly what the specific uses on the ground floor will be, but this map amendment helps make it possible in a way that existing PDR zoning does not. So with that, Commissioners, we're happy to answer any questions that you all might have regarding this map amendment application this afternoon. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Mr. Lewis and to the team for your presentation. Let's see if we have any questions or comments.

Vice Chair Miller, if you could start us off.

VICE CHAIR MILLER: Can you hear me? Okay. Thank you to the Applicant team for your presentation of this map amendment, which going from PDR-1 and RA-1 to MU-5B for an area, this Deanwood Metro site, which is designated on the future land use map, as you said, as medium density residential, low density commercial and local public facilities. And so I mean I think it's pretty clear that the MU-5B zoning is much more consistent than the existing zoning, which largely, except for the very small RA-1 portion, wouldn't allow any residential when the future land use map is calling for medium residential.

So that's how -- that's our primary standard of review for map amendments. We don't have a project in front of us. I know that's from what's in the record, I know that the community is somewhat frustrated by that and wanted to have a community benefits agreement that they wanted to, I guess, that is associated with planned unit developments and that we can consider as part of our order, but we can't with a map amendment consider those types of conditions. But I'm wondering if in all of your community engagement, were there certain community benefits that you, the Applicant, have

1 requests for community benefits that you've received from 2 the ANC or Deanwood Citizens or others which you are engaged 3 in or are we being responsive to or how are you responding 4 to those requests? We can't make it part of this order. isn't part of, necessarily, our consideration, so it 5 probably -- I mean how relevant it is to what our decision 6 is is somewhat in question, but can you just give me some 7 further information on what your dialogue has been with the 8 ANC and Deanwood Citizens and maybe other community groups 9 on what benefits they might be seeking and which you maybe 10 11 could separately, I guess, enter into some kind of agreement 12 with them outside of our zoning process? 13 MR. LEWIS: Yes. Thank you for the question. 14 I'll start off just by reiterating that the library -- the 15 plan for the library is a really meaningful gift from WMATA 16 to the District and beyond that, the conversation has 17 largely been about the type of commercial uses in the ground 18 floor or future joint development project with lots of 19 comments, we kind of mentioned it a couple of times this 20 afternoon, lots of comments about grocery stores as a highly desired use. 21 22 And so most of the conversation, Commissioner 23 Miller, has been about grocery stores and, you know, I'll 24 let Howard kind of supplement here with what they've done,

what WMATA has done because WMATA has done a lot, but the

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short answer is that this map amendment facilitates the mixed use development, which paves the way for grocery store use in the future and Mr. Ways, I don't know if you want to add further to the grocery store commentary.

MR. WAYS: Sure. Howard Ways, Senior Development Manager. I apologize, for some reason, my computer is not allowing me to turn on my camera. So yeah, the grocery store, you know, going back to the compact hearing last year, it was identified as probably the leading community benefit that we heard from the residents throughout this process and so WMATA has done a couple of things. So we've, you know, engaged the Deputy Mayor's Office for Planning and Economic Development on this project. We were able to get the site identified as being eligible for the supermarket's tax credit that the city has to offer.

I've also had conversations with the Washington D.C. Economic Partnership about strategies to attract commercial uses to this site, with a particular emphasis on grocery store uses. We think the site is large enough to accommodate a small format grocery store, you know, somewhere between 10,000 and 20,000 square feet. We've identified six small format supermarket operators that currently operate in the District's, Maryland and Virginia. And so we expect to have, along with our selected development partner, a very aggressive approach towards

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    trying to attract a grocer to this location, as well as
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    other neighborhood serving community uses.
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              MR. LEWIS: And I would just add, Commissioner
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    Miller, you know, Mr. Ways mentioned it in his testimony,
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    but just to point it out in response to your question, the
    RFP does include the comments about this grocery store use
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    preference from the DCA folks and from the ANC.
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    comments, those preferences were wrapped into the RFP so
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    that developers, respondents could see, you know, how
    important this was to the community, but the RFP also
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    directly speaks to the need for a grocery use in this area.
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    That's called out in our supplemental submission at Exhibit
    23.
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              VICE CHAIR MILLER: Well, thank you, Mr. Lewis and
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    Mr. Ways for those responses. And Mr. Ways, it's good to
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    hear you, even though I can't see you. We've worked
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    together in previous lives together or careers together.
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    the RFP process, which is a separate process from this
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    process, that's WMATA's RFP process; is that correct?
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              MR. WAYS: Correct.
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              VICE CHAIR MILLER: Not the District's.
                                                        Hi, I see
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    you now.
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              MR. WAYS: Yes. I came to the other side of the
    table.
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VICE CHAIR MILLER: Good to see you.

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1 MR. WAYS: Yes, good to see you. 2 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Just where is the RFP process 3 status right now? 4 MR. WAYS: Sure, sure. 5 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Where -- yeah. So the joint development solicitation 6 MR. WAYS: 7 was advertised June 17. Since then, we've had a 8 presolicitation developer forum online. We had about 79 participants in that meeting. That was followed up a couple 9 of days later with an actual site walkthrough with potential 10 11 respondents. We had about 30 people, you know, various 12 developers, architects, engineers participate in that 13 walkthrough and the due date for responses is September 10th 14 of this year. 15 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Thank you, appreciate that 16 response. And I should've mentioned the public library use, 17 that is the new public library that's going to be on this 18 site and we have that in the record, as you mentioned, the 19 letter of support from DCPL and that contribution to this 20 development is a very significant component and the MU-5B zoning, you said, that's being proposed would allow for a 21 22 10,000 to 20,000 square foot of commercial use on that -- on 23 the lower level, on that ground and lower level or where Is it on the ground level or is it --24 exactly? 25 MR. WAYS: On the ground level, correct. Howard

Ways, again, Senior Development Manager with WMATA. Yes, in our analysis of the site, we believe that the site is large enough to accommodate 10,000 to 20,000 square feet of ground floor retail as part of the mixed use development.

VICE CHAIR MILLER: And I don't want to -- this will be my last question on this since I don't want to get too much into the project, since we're not -- don't have a project before us, but you said you did identify six grocers, small format grocers, what does it mean to identify? You've talked with them yet or you think that they -- it fits -- it might fit into their marketing scheme based on what they've done in the past?

MR. WAYS: Correct. The six operators we've identified that have an established footprint in the DMV, you know, in the District, in the suburban Maryland, suburban Virginia. So we think they would be, you know, the first group of likely candidates to talk to about having a grocer come to this particular site. You know, obviously, a grocer that's familiar with the DMV market would have, you know a leg up on outside competition. They may also be currently looking at additional sites that we're not aware of and Deanwood, we think, is a prime location, transit accessible, historic neighborhood, Metro accessibility.

With the appropriate zoning in place, we think that is a good recipe for, you know, at least starting

off conversations with potential grocers.

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2 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Thank you. One last question. 3 One the MU-5B zoning that's being proposed, again, we don't have a project in front of us, but what is the -- there was 4 a reference in -- I think it's the only reference I saw to 5 the number of housing units that would be potentially 6 7 developed on this site because of the new zoning and I think 8 they had something like 650 units, which sounds like a lot, it is a lot of housing units and we know that inclusionary 9 zoning would apply to -- the regular inclusionary zoning 10 11 would apply if we go with OP's recommendation, which is the 12 8 to 10 percent set aside. But can you just tell me what the potential permission is for the number of units that 13 14 would be allowed with the MU-5B zoning, Mr. Lewis or Mr. 15 Dettman or whoever or Mr. Ways? 16 MR. LEWIS: Well, preliminary, the number seems 17 high to me, I think materials that we've been sharing with the ANC and the DCA, I think we recorded something like 125 18 19 to 175 units, does that sound right to you? 20 MR. WAYS: Yeah, there's -- again, Howard Ways, There's sort of two standards you're looking at. 21 WMATA. 22 One is what is the amount of density which ultimately translates to the number of units that the zoning would 23 24 allow, compared to what we think at a given moment the 25 market demands and financial feasibility of those units is.

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    So in our analysis, and I'll speak from the financial
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    feasibility --
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Did they freeze or did we
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    freeze?
            I think we froze.
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              MR. WAYS: -- more than accommodates that level of
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    density.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So Mr. Ways, let me just say,
    for some reason, you all froze. I hate to have you repeat
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    all of that again.
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              MR. WAYS: Oh, okay.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: But if you could --
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              (Crosstalk).
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              MR. WAYS: Okay. So I'll address the site from a
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    market feasibility and financial feasibility perspective,
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    so, you know, our analysis is such that we believe that
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    there is a market and a financial feasibility for anywhere
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    from 125 to 175 units of market rate housing at this
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    location. And the zoning that we've asked for through the
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    map amendment provides more than enough density to allow for
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    that level of development to occur.
              MR. LEWIS: And just to finish that thought, I
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    think the number you're citing, Commissioner Miller, comes
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    from the DDOT report, where they're looking at kind of the
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    maximum theoretical capacity here over the entire site.
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    Only a portion of which is the joint development site.
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1 they're looking at maxing out the density on top of the bus 2 turnaround and the Metro rail station itself, which I think 3 is what DDOT, that's how they analyze potential traffic impacts. But that really doesn't align with what Metro is 4 5 soliciting in terms of its RFP. VICE CHAIR MILLER: Right. And it might've even 6 7 included housing on top of the potential new library. 8 MR. WAYS: Exactly, yeah. 9 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Which, as I understand it, you're not planning on this -- for this particular 10 11 development, it's supposed to be a freestanding library; is 12 that correct? 13 MR. WAYS: Correct. Thank you very much. 14 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Okay. 15 appreciate all of the presentation, the community engagement 16 that you've done. We're going to hear maybe from the 17 community and I might have some more questions for you after 18 I hear from them and after I read more carefully the ANC 19 letter that just came into the record. I read it very 20 quickly as you were -- as it came in just a few minutes ago, but I need to read it a little more carefully and I might 21 22 have some more questions later, Mr. Chairman. But than you 23 all very much. 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you. Commissioner

Stidham, any questions, comments?

1 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Just well one question and 2 one comment, actually. First of all, thank you for the 3 detailed comparison of the different zones that you are 4 looking at. It was helpful in not only seeing it but hearing your justification for why you did not select those as the zoning you were looking for, so that was really 7 helpful. I would like to hear a little bit more detail in the comp plan inconsistencies and the policies that I believe Mr. Dettman pointed out and that were a part of Exhibit 2C and 23, maybe, if you could just expand on that a 10 11 little bit, it would be great. 12 MR. DETTMAN: Sure. Thank you, Commissioner Stidham and is it Mike? Mike, we have a couple slides 13 14 prepared on the comp plan inconsistencies. Would you mind bringing those up? I think there's a couple diagrams, 16 Commissioner Stidham that I think would be helpful in our 17 summary of this. So in our filing -- as the appendix slides are coming up, in our writeup of the potential 19 inconsistencies, there were a few housing policies related 20 to affordable housing next to Metro Rail and then there was also a couple policies in the urban design element related 21 22 to contrasts and building scale and what not, basically policies that are encouraging avoidance of overpowering 23 contrast and scale, like a 100-foot building across the 24 25 street from a 20-foot building.

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Now, this is -- there's a separate PDF, Mike, that I sent to Mr. Young and Ms. Schellin. Great. Thank you. Next slide. So as I mentioned, as it relates to housing near Metro, there is a land use action that talks about encouraging development in and around Metro stations to exceed affordable units required under the IZ program. then next slide, there's also two housing element provisions. One is a policy talking about requiring 20 to 30 percent of the housing units built publicly owned disposed land for affordable. And then there's another action talking about review and consider expansion of the IZ So I want to just address those three things in the next slide. Next slide, please. Quickly, there is guidance that we have and we talk about this all the time, but there's quidance provided by the courts in terms of how you address nonmandatory language in the comp plan and mandatory language in the comp It's there for your consideration, but in general, you know, whether or not you're inconsistent with a policy that's worded in nonmandatory terms or mandatory terms, it does not automatically mean that the Commission disapproves the project. It's all about the balancing of consistencies and inconsistencies is what these two provisions say from the McMillan order. Next slide.

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So looking at the two actions and we often don't

1 talk about the difference between an action and a policy in 2 the comprehensive plan, but I thought here it might be worth 3 just talking about it. So we believe that we are not inconsistent with these two particular actions. 4 5 they're not policies and then if you look at the implementation element, it talks about how the comp plan 6 7 provides recommended actions that are to be carried out by government agencies. And so really, it's not for 8 applicants, it's really for agencies to address. 9 And if you look at the implementation element, 10 11 there's a very detailed chart that assigns each action to a 12 government agency. Also, when it talks about -- setting 13 that aside, when you look at the language in the first 14 action about encourage developments, as we've already 15 discussed, this is a proposal for a zoning map amendment. 16 There's no specific development and then the second action, 17 review and consider expansion of the IZ program, the 18 Commission has already done that. They've already expanded 19 the IZ program in creating IZ+. And in doing that, Office 20 of Planning and the Commission created a mechanism that allowed for deviations from IZ+ based upon the term that 21 22 shows up in the regulations, mitigating circumstances, such as locations that already have an overconcentration of 23 24 affordable housing. And there's the provision from Subtitle 25 Z400.5, where it's a relief fail. It allows the Office of

Planning and the Commission to look at the circumstances of a particular area and determine whether or not IZ+ is appropriate. And as Mr. Lewis mentioned, the Office of Planning is recommending that IZ+ in this particular planning area is not appropriate. Next slide.

This policy that we're here looking at, affordable housing on publicly owned sites, you know, you could say is worded in mandatory terms, require that 20 to 30 percent of the housing built on public-owned land be devoted to affordable housing. And then on the right hand side, it's just sort of a justification for why we believe we're not inconsistent with this. First, set asides above 20 percent fall outside the IZ program, even under IZ+. And they're more germane to district land dispositions under DC10801, which WMATA is not subject to. Also, 20 to 30 percent affordable housing would perpetuate the continued overconcentration of affordable housing in Wards 7 and 8.

I would also say that this would also conflict with the housing element goal of 15 percent affordable housing per planning area. It also conflicts with other guidance that's provided in the comprehensive plan and as that language from the McMillan case talks about that, even a policy that's worded in mandatory terms, you know, the Commission has to sometimes look at where there are conflicts. And there is guidance in the comprehensive plan

that talk about avoiding overconcentration of affordable housing in areas that have too much affordable housing, as well as more about the equitable distribution of affordable housing, meaning affordable housing in high income areas and market rate housing in low income areas. Next slide.

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So if we look at what information is out there, you can see the table on the left, working from the comprehensive plan, where the comp plan, again, sets a goal of 15 percent of housing units in each planning area to be affordable. And you can see here outlined in red in the housing element, the far northeast, southeast planning area has over 20 percent, 26 percent of the housing units in that area are currently affordable housing. And actually, I think that that number is probably low because if you look at the most recent data on DMPED's affordable housing tracker, you can see based upon the 2019 housing equity goals that were established by the Mayor, this particular planning area is already over 200 percent of its affordable housing goal. So that information sort of tells you that, you know, perhaps the IZ+ on this particular site would not be appropriate. Next slide.

We also looked at, you know, the IZ program is sort of built on the premise that the additional market rate units that you gain through the bonus density help to cross subsidize the affordable units that are required. And in

you don't have -- the rents that are generated by the market rate units cannot cross subsidize the affordable units. so what we show in this chart here is -- let's just look at the bottom levels, the median rents that are out there in Ward 7 in the planning areas, as well as the Deanwood neighborhood, the median rent in this area is around \$1,100, around \$1,200 for the median rent across all unit types. If you just look at the median rent that can be charged, the maximum median rent that can be charged for IZ units at the 60 percent MFI level, that's about \$1,500, so really, because of the lower rents in this area, they have a hard time -- the market rate rents have a hard time cross subsidizing affordable. So the more affordable you put in the building, the more difficult it will be for a developer to come and build and finance a project, right? Really, under these circumstances, it's the IZ units that are cross subsidizing the market rate units. And so that's just some -- that's just a data point that we wanted to present to you to show that, you know, we believe that on this site, regular IZ, which the set aside under regular IZ would be between, assuming stick construction, it would be between 10 and 12.5 percent. We think that's the right amount of affordable housing for this particular site. That's all I have for you --

areas --several neighborhoods in Ward 7 and Ward 8, really,

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1 (Crosstalk). 2 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Great. No, that was very 3 helpful. Thank you very much for going into such 4 significant detail. Thank you. And Chair, I have nothing 5 more. Thank you, Commissioner 6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Good. 7 Stidham. 8 Commissioner Imamura, any questions or comments? 9 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Chairman. questions, just a couple comments. Appreciate the questions 10 11 that Commissioner Stidham had asked, as well as Vice Chair 12 Miller. Specifically, I want to underscore Commissioner 13 Stidham's comments about the comparison of zones, that was 14 very helpful, especially the explanation for why you chose 15 MU-5B for its height versus the MU-7 for its density. Appreciate the honesty behind that, specifically, just for 16 17 the higher retail space and just the explanation that you'd 18 have to take out additional floors and units if you went 19 with the MU-7 just to get the commercial retail space, so 20 appreciate that. 21 Also, appreciate the timeline, that was very 22 helpful to see. A lot of times, applicants will come in and 23 just provide a list, but it's helpful to sort of visualize what that looks like at the time. I also want to comment 24 25 just on the community outreach efforts, community

engagement. I think Mr. Ways, you had mentioned you recognized it was important to engage the community early in the process and so that's something that we listen for closely, so I appreciate your comments about that.

Also, I think somebody had touched on just looking at the community leads, I know we know this is a map amendment, appreciate Vice Chair Miller's comments just in general about some of the programming for the space, even though that's not before us. It's important to understand zoning is just not necessarily about planning, but it's sort of a two-dimensional space about higher density, but it's important to understand sort of the comprehensive view and vision for this area, what the needs and opportunities are, the urban feel and how that ties into the urban fabric of the neighborhood. So it's really important to understand the complete aspect of what the potential is for this particular site. So I appreciate Vice Chair Miller's comments or questions about that and the responses.

And then just also wanted to comment, I think Mr. Ways had mentioned on the joint development site here about the comments from FDA about WMATA being probably one of the most progressive transit agencies. This particular map amendment aligns with the 10-year strategic plan for this particular area, so it seems to me as if there's been a lot of cross coordination and planning and I certainly

appreciate that. That certainly came through tonight in your presentation.

Also, just wanted to comment also, one more, I guess, it's one thing -- just to go back to the community engagement, it's one thing to say, you know, you reached out to the community and did a lot of engagement, but also just wanted to comment that I appreciate the breakdown of those results, just the honesty behind that as well, saying hey, these are the results or the kind of comments that we received. And I don't recall the exact amount, I didn't take those down, but about, you know, most of them were about the public library or the grocery store, mixed-use housing, so I appreciated the additional insight that you provided, the breakdown of the information at that scale.

Outside of that, I think I'm in agreement with Vice Chair Miller that it seems as if maybe the MU-5B is not inconsistent with the comprehensive plan and that any inconsistencies are overridden by some of the opportunities here provided by this map amendment. So with that, Mr. Chairman, I don't think I have any other comments. I appreciate the due diligence and the thoroughness that this Applicant has put into this map amendment, the additional slides that were reserved to respond to Commissioner Stidham's questions there. It was just nice backup information to have. So I appreciate the Applicant trying

1 to tailor the presentation to fit into 20, 25 minutes and 2 hit the highlights but then also have other information for 3 our questions, so pretty effective, I think, but otherwise, 4 I don't have any questions. I think all of the questions 5 that I did have were already responded to through either Vice Chair Miller's set of questions and Commissioner 6 Stidham's, so thank you, Mr. Chairman. 7 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you. First, let me thank 8 this Applicant. I'm sure -- I will tell you, I am disturbed 9 by ANC Commissioner 7C's letter. This is a map amendment 10 11 and maybe sometimes we signal the wrong things as the 12 Commission because the counsel, my legal counsel has told me many times do not talk about a project. So I try to -- I 13 try to lead by example. However, I understand, I think this 14 15 map amendment, though, and the rezoning, which I believe, too, is not inconsistent, if we stay on topic, then we won't 16 17 confuse the community. I'm out here with the community and I'm going to 18 19 offer to Commissioner Holmes, if I need to come out and help 20 to establish that, that we're not -- this is not about a community benefits package, and if WMATA is talking about 21 22 doing something like that with you, that's not actually 23 before the Zoning Commission. But I will say this, I know 24 Howard Ways, I've known Howard Ways for years. I was in

Prince George's County this past Saturday for the relevant

seminar they had out there. He's well-respected. He was well-respected and his name came out there, in a good way. And I will tell you that he knows the ropes. And, for me, when I look at this letter, ANC 7C, like he said, I believe he started on the beginning and it's full circle for him, I believe that some of this confusion that sometimes we may be signaling will be taken care of with him continuing to work on this project, so Mr. Ways, not putting any pressure on you, I know you can get it done. You've been around the circles. You've been in many places and you know this stuff like the back of your hand, so I would appreciate that.

And will talk to Commissioner Holmes. And I want Commissioner Holmes to know I appreciate the work he does. I'm willing personally to come out to the ANC and if you and I want to sit, get together and I don't drink coffee, but get together, just have a conversation, I really want to make sure, and I mentioned this previously, that we're not sending the wrong signal to residents that they can get a benefits package on a map amendment because I think some communities know that and some have a problem understanding that. But I think that this zone and what Howard Ways and the team, this is a prescription to get exactly where you need to go. It's not inconsistent, but I don't want us to start sending that signal because I'm hearing a lot and I don't hear it just in here.

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1
              And then it sounds like well, I heard you cutting
 2
    out our benefits, that's what I'm hearing. That's not what
 3
    the law -- we have to go by the regulations, so I would
 4
    encourage my colleagues, too, that let's make sure we stay
 5
    on course. Other than that, Mr. Ways, good seeing you.
    think that this is a great project. I mean not project, a
 6
 7
    great map amendment to get to where you're trying to get to,
    the description to get to where you're trying to get to.
8
    And sometimes, I know it can be kind of difficult not to
9
    talk about a project. I have been schooled by the set of
10
11
    attorneys we have now, the ones I had previously and the
12
    ones I had when I first started and it ain't never changed,
13
    so I'll leave it at that.
14
              I don't necessarily have any questions.
                                                        I think
15
    my colleagues have covered them, so what I will do -- Ms.
    Schellin, do we have -- is Mr. Holmes here from ANC 7C?
16
17
              MS. SCHELLIN: Let me check.
18
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, Mr. Ways, did you see the
19
    letter?
             Let me ask you this, did you see the letter from
20
    ANC 7C?
              MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, I believe it's been put in the
21
22
    record now.
23
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, I was just asking Mr.
    Ways has he had a chance. Okay. Hold on.
24
25
              MR. WAYS: Yes, I did see the letter,
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Commissioner. 1 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, okay. And I know you're 3 working with them and helping them understand. I mean I 4 just think that certain neighborhoods -- and I'm not getting 5 on anybody, certain neighborhoods -- I see in some neighborhoods where this has not come up and then in some 6 7 neighborhoods, neighborhoods like where I live at, this 8 comes up all the time and I want to make sure we are on the 9 same -- we're doing the same thing across the city, that's all I'm trying to say. 10 Mr. Holmes, Commissioner Holmes --11 12 COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Yes. 13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Good evening. COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Good evening, sir. 14 15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Do you have any 16 questions? 17 COMMISSIONER HOLMES: For the Applicant? CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes. 18 19 COMMISSIONER HOLMES: No. At this time, we've had 20 exhaustive conversations with the Applicant and, at this point, the only real question in terms of, like you said 21 22 before -- not you but another commissioner said in terms of 23 where are we with the RFP and he did give us an answer that 24 that's going to be to September. 25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. I hope you stick around

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    and do your report because I do have some questions and I'm
 2
    going to offer something to you. We'll go from there, okay?
 3
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Absolutely.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right, my man. All right.
 4
 5
              Ms. Schellin, do we have any -- that's right,
    there's only one ANC. Do we have any other government
6
    agencies?
 7
8
              MS. SCHELLIN: No other government agencies that
9
    I'm aware of.
10
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And DDOT usually doesn't show
11
    for this, right?
12
              MS. SCHELLIN: Let's see if DDOT is here.
13
    typically don't.
14
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Right.
15
              MS. SCHELLIN: I do not see anybody from DDOT.
16
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Let's go to the
17
    Office of Planning.
              MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. That's going to be Ron
18
19
    Barron and Joel Lawson.
20
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Let's bring them up and
21
    you all may begin.
22
              MR. BARRON: Good evening, Commissioners.
    have a slide that I had sent to Michael if he is able to
23
24
    pull that up so you all have something to look at. All
25
    right. Good evening, Mr. Chair and Commissioners. My name
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is -- for the record is Ron Barron with the DC Office of
Planning. The Office of Planning recommends approval of the
Applicant's request for a map amendment at the Deanwood
Metro Station. This map amendment would rezone property
from PRD-1 and RA-1 to MU-5B. The future land use map
designates the property as suitable for medium density
residential, low density commercial and local public

facilities, as has been discussed.

The MU-5B zone is a moderate to medium density mixed use zone so the proposed map amendment would not be inconsistent with this designation or with the generalized policy map. OP continues to not recommend that IZ+ be applied in this case. The far northeast, far southeast planning area has a significant portion of the city's total dedicated affordable housing units already. And has exceeded the District's target for new affordable units by almost 225 percent, as was stated. Standard IZ requirements would obviously still apply.

On balance, when viewed through a racial equity lens, the proposed map amendment would not be inconsistent with comprehensive plan goals. It would allow for new housing options, community facilities and opportunities for job creation. And with that, I will conclude the Office of Planning testimony for this case and would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Mr. Barron and all
 2
    of the work that you all have done on this. Let's see if we
 3
    have any questions or comments.
              Vice Chair Miller?
 4
 5
              VICE CHAIR MILLER: No questions. Thank you, Mr.
    Barron for the Office of Planning report.
6
 7
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Commissioner Stidham?
 8
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM:
                                     Thank you very much.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And Commissioner Imamura?
9
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
10
11
    No questions, Mr. Barron. Thank you for your report to help
12
    us set the canvas for this map amendment.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. I don't have any
13
14
    questions either, Mr. Barron. Thank you.
15
              Mr. Lewis, do you have any questions?
16
              MR. LEWIS: (Inaudible) Office of Planning.
17
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Chairman Holmes, do you
    have any questions of the Office of Planning?
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19
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Again, to confirm that they
20
    stated that we were ANC -- I was reading the report and it
    said that ANC 7C has 20 percent of all affordable housing in
21
22
    citywide, I just wanted a confirmation on that.
23
              MR. BARRON: It was about 19 percent in, I
    believe, 2019.
24
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COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Yes.

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              MR. BARRON: And since then, we've exceeded --
    there's been more construction and they exceeded the city's
 2
 3
    goals since 2019 by 225 percent.
 4
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Okay. Thank you.
 5
    as the community was having a -- looking at that number, we
    figured it was more, but we have been asking for an updated
6
    number to support us for this project, so thank you.
 7
8
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right, thank you. I think
    that's it Mr. Barron. Thank you very much. We appreciate
9
    your report.
10
11
              MR. BARRON: Thank you very much, Commissioners.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Thank you.
13
              Ms. Schellin, let's go to -- Chair Holmes, are you
14
    ready to give us your report?
15
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Sure, I can. Give me one
16
    second.
17
              MS. SCHELLIN:
                             I'm sorry. Chairman Hood, do you
18
    consider the DC Public Library as a public agency?
19
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Do I consider it? I guess so,
20
    yeah. Do they want to --
21
              MS. SCHELLIN: They want to testify.
22
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Well, let me say this --
23
              MS. SCHELLIN: We don't typically have them as a
24
    public agency, but --
25
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah. If that's -- yeah, DC
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1
    Public Library -- but let me say this, whoever -- can
    somebody look in the chat? I don't know. Normally, the
 2
 3
    chat is off. I see them asking questions --
 4
              MS. SCHELLIN: I've checked that. I've been
 5
    checking it, yeah.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, all right. I didn't know
 6
 7
    we were using the chat, okay. All right. Let's go to DC
8
    Public Library. Let me see. Who's representing it? I
    don't see -- okay, Ms. Pahwa -- I'm going to really mess --
9
10
    no, let me try to pronounce it, Pahwa. I've heard your name
11
    before and I just can't remember. Is it Pahwa -- Pahwa,
12
    okay. Well, I was in the same library, okay. All right.
    You may begin.
13
14
              MS. PAHWA: Good evening, Chairman and
15
    Commissioners. This is Jaspreet Pahwa from DC Public
16
    Library. I'm the director of capital planning and
17
    construction. We have entered into the record a bit late,
18
    but we've submitted the letter of support for the library --
19
    from the library for the zoning for the map amendment and
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    I'm here to answer any questions. I've also submitted a
    copy of the written testimony clarifying that we are looking
21
22
    to design and construct a stand-alone library, which will e
23
    distinct from the joint development RFP that WMATA is
24
    shepherding.
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CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So Ms. Pahwa, you endorse or

1 you support the map amendment? 2 MS. PAHWA: Absolutely. 3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And after the prescription, 4 then you will -- whatever happens with that, you'll work 5 with the Applicant on that, right? That's right. We've been under 6 MS. PAHWA: 7 conversations and have to formalize the written agreements 8 with WMATA to go forward with the designing and building the 9 library. CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. I just 10 11 wanted to -- I wanted to stop right there just with the map 12 amendment. 13 MS. PAHWA: Yes. CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. So thank you so 14 15 much. We appreciate you all taking the time to opine on 16 this. Let's see if we have any questions. 17 Vice Chair Miller? VICE CHAIR MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 18 19 Thank you, Ms. Pahwa, for being here on behalf of DC Public 20 Libraries. It's very exciting that a new library will be coming to this site and that is already budgeted for, as I 21 2.2 understand it? 23 That's correct. The Mayor's budget MS. PAHWA: 24 has funded the library to the \$24 million number and we are 25 ready to embark our journey very, very soon.

VICE CHAIR MILLER: And just because you're here, just so I have my understanding of the big picture, how many regional or branch libraries are there in the city and how many of them are still awaiting to be modernized? I know a lot of them have been and they're very exciting all throughout the city, but can you just give us a very brief summary of where the library modernization project is? MS. PAHWA: Absolutely. We have 26 libraries citywide. Our facilities masterplan paved way for the replacement of some of the smaller libraries in spirit of equitable service to the neighborhoods that have been previously underserved by smaller footprints. Deanwood Library is one such location. It is currently the 7,300 square foot library is collocated with the recreation center and our typical branch library is 20,000 square foot plus. As part of our masterplan that was completed just before the pandemic and published, we requested funding for replacing some of those locations. So, at this point, we have four of those smaller locations to be replaced by full service libraries. And we have two existing library locations that have not been modernized in the entire campus and you have seen one of those projects more recently, the Chevy Chase Library. VICE CHAIR MILLER: Right, okay. Well, thank you

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very much.

1	MS. PAHWA: Absolutely.
2	VICE CHAIR MILLER: And good luck with this
3	modernization as well.
4	MS. PAHWA: Thank you.
5	VICE CHAIR MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
6	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, thank you.
7	Commissioner Stidham, any questions or comments?
8	COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Thank you for being here
9	and having seen what I would call a kiosk there, this will
10	be a huge benefit to the community, so thank you for your
11	work.
12	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And Commissioner
13	Imamura, any questions or comments?
14	COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15	No questions, just a comment I thought Vice Chair Miller was
16	going to say it's very exciting that DC Public Library,
17	another agency on a hearing rather than OP and DDOT, so
18	appreciate another agency weighing in. Thank you for the
19	work that you do on behalf of the city. Thank you very much
20	for your testimony today.
21	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Ms. Pahwa, I just have a quick
22	question. Who is the chair of the board now?
23	MS. PAHWA: Anthony Williams, Tony Williams.
24	CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Oh, oh, okay. Excuse me. All
25	right. All right. Thank you very much. Let's see if we

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have any other questions for you.
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 2
              MS. PAHWA: And Andrew Trueblood is the chair of
    the facilities committee, which is what my built environment
 3
 4
    team reports to.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Oh, okay.
 5
 6
              MS. PAHWA: Yeah.
 7
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: That's where everybody is,
8
    okay.
9
              MS. PAHWA: Yes.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, good, all right. Let's
10
11
    see if we have any -- Mr. Lewis, do you have any questions?
12
              MR. LEWIS: Thank you for showing up.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Chair Holmes, do you have any
13
14
    questions of Ms. Pahwa?
15
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: No, thank you.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Again, as one of my
16
17
    colleagues mentioned, I think it was Commissioner Imamura or
    one of them mentioned it's good to hear from the library, so
18
19
    come back and see us soon.
20
              MS. PAHWA: Absolutely.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Thank you.
21
22
              All right, Ms. Schellin, I think we're going to
    Chair Holmes now.
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24
              Chair Holmes?
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Thank you. So you all
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1
    received my -- you all have received my -- our decision memo
 2
    for the 72402. As such, I won't go over -- I assume you all
 3
    have read it now, so I will go to the part where you, Chair
 4
    Hood, have been discussing.
 5
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, thank you.
 6
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Uh-huh. One second let me
 7
    pull this up here. (Child speaking). Sure, go ahead. One
    second. (Child speaking).
8
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We'll wait until you get a
9
10
    lemonade.
11
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Absolutely, appreciate it.
12
    Yep, on dad time. So --
13
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We all know how that is, we
14
    have to stop and get lemonade and do what we've got to do,
15
    so we're a patient commission.
16
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: I appreciate that, lemonade,
17
    Costco hotdog, ice cream, all that. Now, getting back to
18
    where we were talking about, so, you know, this process --
19
    let me first, you know, we start on a positive always around
    here, we, ANC7C, working with WMATA, Mr. Hays, as well as,
20
    of course, working with the DCA, this has been a long
21
22
    process. They did come early and they were often on our
    agenda, at least probably, I think, three times over the
23
    last six months. So WMATA did do -- did reach out to us
24
25
    early and often, so we appreciate that.
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In terms of the DCPL Library, we are very excited about that. The DCA with the Friends of Deanwood Library went to go get that \$24 million. It's been in the budget for about two years, so we have -- we keep fighting to make sure it stayed there. We're so glad that it should be activated and that the WMATA was able to provide that land for the library.

In terms of housing, of course, the community, we have seen a lot, as you know, this is what, my sixth term going -- sixth term as a commissioner, and we've been talking about nothing but affordable housing the entire time over in 7C, so we were not surprised by the numbers that showed up in the Office of Planning report and, as such, we have concerns about housing overall, not just in general, that whether the intent for it to be market rate, as was said earlier, those numbers are so low, market rate is affordable on our side of town, so it's almost default, and what we end up seeing is that when you ask for market rate, 60 percent, 80 percent higher, it still ends up sliding back into being affordable, whether it's through making sure that you keep a high occupancy rate at that building and then moving into vouchers, et cetera.

So we are cognizant that our numbers are high and they remain higher because we have a lot of projects, we've had a lot of projects in the past that's gone through zoning

that, you know, we'll start off with the well-meaning intentions of being a mixed use project, but again, there's a lot of affordable housing and we did a lot of replacement housing units as well, that's been expanded on many projects that are in 7C. So we are very concerned about that and we continue to ask for -- a lot of projects start as mixed use, but we have concerns and we worry about the commercial part actually being fulfilled.

Of course, we're looking at -- we had the 4,800 on Nannie Helen Burroughs. The only thing we have out of that is a Subway. As we're looking at this project, we're still waiting for the strand to be activated. Of course, you already know about the Capitol Gateway Marketplace and all of the trials and tribulations on that project. So we are very wary of the commercial aspects always tied to an MU project and it would be -- it would be foolish for us not to mention it every time we have a hearing. All right.

And so in terms of the mixed use development, of course, they are correct that the number one discussion for that point is a grocery store. But other things that were brought up during that hearing as well, as with goes along with the disposition hearing, there was a discussion for basically seeing if the community can receive some of those benefits that the executive office was talking about in terms of more agencies moving into Ward 7 and 8. So that

type of commercial use would be welcomed as well as educational equity as the report that came out from UDC a few years ago stated that a majority of --- most students that went to community college came from Ward 7, so having it moved to Ward 5 seems to -- was a head scratcher for us and we figured this would be a great time to realign that decision.

All right. So that's quickly going on what the community talked about and, again, our recommendations were also echoed by Office of Planning and others about the 2021 Comp Plan, the 2008 Deanwood Strategic Development Plan, the Nellie Helen Burroughs Corridor Small Area Plan, which we are still doing concurrently while this project was being discussed to the community. Again, we just want to make sure in terms of, again, the transparency of the RFP process so that -- and actually, participation in the RFP process is what the community and the ANC would love for to occur because we want to make sure that as these -- because this process is asking to -- is doing a map amendment without actually showing a project of the possible, the community is having to sit there and trust to see what is going to happen.

Instead of that trust, transparency and a seat at the table would enable that and so that's why the community, as well as the ANC would like a seat -- have a seat at the

table for the RFP process.

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Now, of course, WMATA did do their due diligence and they did meet out with the community and the Commission multiple times and they did finally come up on the 12th to DC and was able to approve the map amendment and they relayed that to the ANC and we also approve, support the map amendment, you know, however, but as we've seen, we, ANC7C, as well as the DCA has sat there and had conversations, just talk about concerns on this project and the process going forward -- well, now and going forward and, again, we are used to, and I think Commissioner Miller said it best, like we're used to a project and a PUD and having all of these discussions and again, going to the portion of a map amendment has the appearance of shielding the future developer from having to have outlook or community outreach to the community because we've seen projects happen that way where (inaudible) did not occur and the project moved forward and some of the things that were said before the project actually didn't occur at the completion of the project. So we want to -- we want to actually make sure that, you know, as we're looking at going forward as map

So we want to -- we want to actually make sure that, you know, as we're looking at going forward as map amendments come to not just 7C but all commissions, especially east of the river, that, you know, there is some way to have a mechanism to talk about if we can't talk about

1 CBAs, what is an equivalent necessary to make sure that
2 communities and the ANC are at the table throughout the
3 entire process.

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And then in terms of the parking requirement, and we know DDOT doesn't come to these meetings, but, you know, we have concerns about, again, DDOT and their highly restrictive parking, which could inhibit the ability to do economic development on grocery stores and other types of economic development projects within 7C, east of the river, et cetera, because until we have that amenity, we still need cars to get to our amenities. So again, one of my recommendations I would just put in there is to talk about a CBA agreement attached to a map amendment, but again, if there is some other process or way, innovative solutions is what we're really looking for here to make sure that ultimately the ANC and the community are really tied to this project, not just at this portion, because what we've seen with other projects is that once things become by right, we then do not start -- we stop receiving much notification and we don't want that with this project or any project in the future.

So in closing, you know, we want to thank you again for the great weight, allowing us to provide great weight with this project and, again, we do look forward to that new standalone library and the potential for a grocery

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    store development at the Deanwood Metro Station. And I'm
 2
    here for questions.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Thank you,
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    Commissioner Holmes. Let's see if we have any questions.
 5
    have some, but I'll go in the same order.
              Vice Chair Miller, do you have any questions or
 6
 7
    comments?
8
              VICE CHAIR MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and
    thank you, Chair Holmes for your testimony here today.
9
    Appreciate it. No questions at this time. I'm still
10
11
    digesting Mr. Holmes' comments.
12
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
13
              Commissioner Stidham, any questions or comments?
14
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Thank you, no.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And Commissioner
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16
    Imamura, any questions or comments?
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              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
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    No questions. The only comment is, you know, I appreciate
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    Chair Holmes, your testimony and I certainly understand the
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    perspective and views of your constituents. It is difficult
    to distinguish the difference between sort of projects and
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22
    map amendments, right, because people are interested in the
    look, feel and touch of what might be coming. And I think
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24
    it's just incumbent of all of us to remind everybody that
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    these map amendments really set the stage for those kinds of
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conversations to happen. So until then, right, it's
theoretical, just as DDOT's numbers about the number of
units, so these map amendments is really what sets the stage
for those conversations to take shape, but certainly, I
understand, again, the point of view and perspective and
what (inaudible). Again, thank you for your time and
testimony.

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CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Chairman Holmes, I, too, I want to thank you. I've watched you over the years and I want to thank you. And being on the ANC, you always consult with your civic and citizens associations, your community groups in there and I think that's a plus, a big plus as far as I'm concerned. But one of the things that I don't want to do, and you brought up some very good points, and I was sitting here thinking, when we have a map amendment, you know, how do we hold projects to the fire, what they say they're going to do once it's approved here. We know this is a recipe for them to be able to try to achieve some of those things and that's actually a good question. I think we need to see what other areas are doing, but what I -- the only thing I say, in your submission, it says therefore, and I agree with you keeping it right out in front, you should do that, but I don't want to put you on promise land, like this Commission has some big thing they can do because it says, "Therefore, ANC7C recommends that the community benefits agreement be

attached to a map amendment request to eliminate this loophole for this project with all future requests."

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I'm going to tell you straight up, we can't do But it's good to keep it out there, the one thing Chairman Hood is not going to never do is keep you on promised land, make it look like I can do something and then when the vote comes out or when it's done, we actually didn't do anything. We want to make sure that what you're asking for because I'm looking at this letter and you bring up some good points. We need to hold feet to the fire so that some of these things can materialize. Now, how do we do that? We have elected officials and you're an elected official and you have -- the ANC has a lot of power with DDOT. You mentioned DDOT. You have a lot of power. not necessarily in our -- and you already know this, you've been doing this a long -- what, six terms you said -- you already know this, you all have a lot of power. All I can suggest is continue to exercise it and hold their feet to the fire.

But one thing I'm not going to never do is put a neighborhood, and you mentioned east of the river, and I agree, I'm not going to put you on promised land, so I'll just leave it at that. I don't necessarily have a question, unless you have a question for me and I'm always open and welcome to come out and not talk about a case, but just come

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    out and shooting with you guys and ladies and we can just
 2
    talk indirectly, not necessarily about a subject, but I'm
 3
    always willing to do that and if somebody from the Office of
    Zoning, the Office of Planning needs to do that, you need me
 4
 5
    to help you do that, just let me know. All right.
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Thank you for that.
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 7
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Let's go to -- Mr.
    Lewis, do you have any cross of the chair?
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9
              MR. LEWIS: No, sir. Thank you.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And that's it. Okay.
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11
    So thank you, Chair Holmes, fi you can stick around,
12
    somebody may have some -- oh, did you do your report? Yeah,
13
    you just did.
14
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: Absolutely. I'll be around
15
    if you need me.
16
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah, okay. Thank you.
                                                           All
17
    right.
              Ms. Schellin -- oh, I know what I'm doing, where
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19
    I'm trying to get to, trying to get to the people on
20
    opposition, support or undeclared.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: (Inaudible) ANC there was cross,
22
    okay.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah. I thought -- you know,
    we just was asking questions, I didn't call anyone.
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MS. SCHELLIN: All right. So for witnesses, let

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1
    me get there. There's not a lot. Let's see. Javier
 2
    Sanchez with Deanwood Citizens Association.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Let's bring up --
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              MS. SCHELLIN: I'm sorry. He's listed as an
 4
    opponent. I'm sorry. (Crosstalk)
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 6
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Let's bring them all up. May
 7
    as well.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. If you'll put them all up,
9
    okay. Jennifer Stecklow is undeclared. David Smith,
10
    another representative for Deanwood Community Citizens
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    Association, now he's listed as a proponent.
12
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
              MS. SCHELLIN: So I'm not sure which one is
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14
    representing Deanwood. We've got Deanwood Community
15
    Citizens Association and Deanwood Citizens Association, I'm
16
    assuming they're the same.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, let's see who's going to
    represent them. Let's bring them up and we can ask them.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Right. So just the three are the -
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    - they're the only three that registered to testify.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, all right. Which one was
22
    the proponent?
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              MS. SCHELLIN:
                             I'm sorry.
24
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Which one was the proponent?
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25
    can't see.
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1 MS. SCHELLIN: The proponent was Mr. Smith, David 2 Smith. 3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Let's start with Mr. Smith first. 4 5 Mr. Smith, I think you're still on mute. There 6 you go. You're off now. Good evening. 7 MR. SMITH: -- Commissioners and thank you for allowing me to testify today. I think that first, I'd like 8 to just quickly, you know, really, Mr. Ways, Howard -- I've 9 known Howard, I was the Anacostia Riverkeeper. I was a 10 11 commissioner with the Anacostia Waterfront Commission. 12 worked with Mr. Bunn and Marion Barry to design and really lead a lot of the efforts around St. Elizabeths in Ward 8. 13 With that, I can't even remember, it's been so long. I was 14 the president of the Deanwood Citizens Association and 15 16 helped Mr. Holmes become chairman. We worked hand-in-hand 17 from the beginning of his ten years -- actually, they kind 18 of forced me into being president. 19 I was elected president emeritus of Deanwood 20 Citizens Association. I'm not here actually representing or talking on their behalf. Javier is the economic development 21 22 chair. He'll speak on the behalf of the citizens 23 association. I'm with Deanwood Community Development 24 Organization. We've been around since 2015. We actually 25 negotiated the majority of the community benefits agreement

and set the initial precedent working with Commissioner Holmes and the ANCs to try to guide the process of how development happens in Ward 7. And as you know, Mr. Hood, I'm a descendent of Lloyd Smith, who was also your mentor at one point. And he sat on that board and used his authority as a heavy blow to folk who even try to come over here without meeting with the community and giving us what we want. They wouldn't get through any of these committees had that not happened. And so I would really be interested in really -- Mr. Hood, I would love to get in that meeting with you and Mr. Holmes and, you know, really just chop it up and strategically help the next generation avoid these circular conversations that continue to redline our community. I've submitted my written testimony. I would ask, just for the sake of time, you know, I'll skip that, I'll just say that I do support this project. I was one of the ones that initially started this conversation probably in '09, right when the recreation center was being completed. My mother was the president of the Deanwood Citizens Association during that push, working with Ms. Johnson and some of the senior citizens who had been in the citizens association when my father was president, working with my grandfather 30 years ago. So this Deanwood Metro conversation is not new.

We want the same things we see in Pentagon City

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and in Alexandria with the bus terminal underneath. is doing at these subways in Virginia what we thought would be done in Deanwood 30 years ago. So we're not impressed. I'm saying this -- now I'm going to take off my play nice hat, let me just say we're not impressed at the progress. I'm 50 years old this year. I've been catching the subway since I was three, so I'm not impressed. My children have now graduated from college and have come home to a community with no economic opportunity, with master's degrees from places like John Hopkins and Georgetown, but yet, I still have to send them across town to teach and send them across town to spend my money at retail establishments at the bottom of UDC, way up on Connecticut Avenue. So we've been looking at this Deanwood Metro

So we've been looking at this Deanwood Metro
Station as a catalyst to really stabilize our community to
keep us out of this affordable housing crunch and allow us
to actually have amenities like grocery stores and, you
know, just (inaudible) government agencies to kind of
balance out that tax base so we don't have that flip-flop
where we're using vouchers as we are in every single project
in this community to subsidize actual market rate. And I'd
also like to point out that the last time I testified before
this committee, it was for the Nannie Helen Burroughs
project, where we actually did accomplish a community
benefits agreement. And I just want to also put before this

committee, we do recognize as a community, as we've known for 40 years what you guys' roles are, people like myself and Mr. Holme, we bring these things to you because if you -- if not you, who? Clearly, no one else has done it. we have multiple lawsuits that are coming out of east of the river, really going after various agencies, specifically for knowing a community's request around the Fair Housing Act and providing these zoning and funding and LIHTCs and that violate the Civil Rights Act, the Housing Acts of 1974, I could go on and on.

The things that the 200 percent plus housing, people like myself and the Economic Development Committee and Commissioner Holmes have been screaming this from the top of the roofs and we have yet to get a grocery store. We have yet to get the government agencies at the level where we're imploring and as we drive around our communities, none of the people in our communities are getting these construction jobs. They're not getting contracts. So I would say to Howard and Dave, I think you guys have done an excellent, excellent job. I really want to see -- I was hoping, Mr. Hood, that you guys in the Committee could put a little bit more weight -- great weight means what and what kind of society do we live in where we get these titles and these alleged authorities that actually have no power?

in these conversations, it falls on deaf ears and you guys
vote -- this is a usurp of the HUD process.

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And as a developer myself, I'm actually in favor of this project, but I warn, and I've warned in every project, that without a community benefits agreement and some legal way to hold these projects accountable or through some agency, whether it's not Zoning or DMPED, if someone, DOT, doesn't take the legal authority to enforce outcomes, we'll get that one percent. So over the last 20 to 30 years, we've gotten less than one percent of the economic value from any of these billions of dollars' worth of projects, which means there's been massive displacement, massive turnover in homeownership, massive unemployment rates, high school dropouts, infant mortality. They're all directly connected to economic outcomes. So we continue to build things in the way where affordable housing takes precedent and our developers get to dictate what happens to people like me who live in the community, that my grandchildren will still be subjugated and oppressed. don't get financing as businesses, so these are opportunities in our community, this is our land.

We have a right beyond constitutional right, and I'm going to leave that alone, but we do, to demand that our public spaces are used in a way that really benefit us. And we're not really just interested in the bricks and mortar,

1 we're more interested in how it interacts with our 2 community. So if we don't get the grocery store, the 3 government agency, the university and the library in an integrated way, a boutique hotel is something that would 4 5 bring the economic value to that sort of development, but we want to lead this conversation. We don't want to bring in 6 7 some so-called expert. We've been having these conversations for 30 years and I really think it's 8 disingenuous to zone a project without a PUD using our 9 intellectual property, which is our creative rights of how 10 11 this thing should be designed to be farmed out to some 12 foreigner, really, and anybody that doesn't live in Deanwood 13 at this point, to me, is a foreigner, okay? 14 So anybody that's taking money out of our community, out of our tax base is a foreigner. So I know --15 I've worked with Howard. I love the things that Dave --16 17 Dave, I was really appreciative of the equity piece, but 18 equity for us is economics, not jobs. We need contracts, 19 ownership opportunities, long term engagement. I really 20 want to thank WMATA because they've been doing a good job of giving us this information of how to get involved as a 21 22 vendor with WMATA, but we need more than that. And we've seen again, and I'll end it with this, I think Commissioner 23 Holmes was right on point, I think the civic association is 24 25 right on point, but I just wanted to make sure that I put

the history is always due into this, this project, Deanwood wouldn't exist if it wasn't for Lloyd Smith and Marshall Heights Community Development Organization, nor would any subway. We had to sit down at the council building for a month straight because we weren't going to get subway trains at all. Now this is the history nobody talks about. that cost the people jobs and houses and generational wealth just to get this subway station here in our community. And you know how political things are, so when you speak up against powers, you lose money.

So every generation that we see this progress with buildings being built, families like mine take the hit, you know? So we want to see zoning, you work with us, in a way, with these hearings so we can get ahead in these conversations, we become parties. We've done everything legally we thought we could do. And I think Commissioner Holmes and me are frustrated in this point, using our great weight as presidents, as commissioners. I've been a commissioner with the mayor in three different aspects related to environment. At the end of the day, it's like money is controlling everything and we want to -- and at some point, there has to be some accountability where the buck stops and we don't see that as a community. We're very confident this is a good project. We know it's going to benefit generations to come. My concern is Deanwood

Community Development Organization, with a group of about 15 to 17 contractors that do everything from concrete to tar, you know, we don't get those financing opportunities. don't get those teaming opportunities. We don't get those direct contract opportunities to be able to then train and hire our own people. And I think so if -- so Anthony, Mr. Hood, please come to the neighborhood. I'd love to drive you around so you can actually see how our dollars are being spent.

Most of these people on these sites don't even speak English, and I'm going to say it like it is, I sound like I'm an Ohio Republican, but the reality is in this neighborhood, that is the reality and it's been the reality since I've been back from college since 2004. No one in this neighborhood at the level that we should be is being empowered. We have a construction school right here in our dear public charter school three or four blocks from Deanwood Metro Station. How do we know? Because we have those relationships. We pushed for that school for projects like this. But without that community benefits agreement, we absolutely know this won't happen in a way that'll be meaningful for our families and to the next generation.

So I really appreciate you commissioners, you know, really reiterating the fact that this zoning hearing is about the map amendment, but the reason why I'm here and

I think the reason why a lot of us are here is because this
is where we hope the buck stops.

We hope WMATA takes this seriously and also, in light of these new legal cases that are coming out, you know, really as a result of violating the Fair Housing Act, you know, we were hoping that -- we don't want to continue to have to use our personal time and income to sue to get government agencies that are supposed to represent citizens to do their job really and make it a republic and represent us in a way that our tax dollars actually serve us and not foreign entities or people from Kentucky, I mean so that's what we've been seeing and that's my ultimate feel, it's ultimately about economics.

We've only received about one percent of any economic dollars in this community over the last 20 to 30 years, gentrification --

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, so -- so --

MR. SMITH: -- mass unemployment is the result of the economic issue here.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Mr. Smith, I'm going to need you -- with all due respect because I had a lot of respect for your grandfather, the last Lloyd Smith, so with all due respect, I'm going to need you to wind it up because I already know that my legal counsel is saying you put all of that in the record because I can tell you, if you go back

1 and look at -- hold on, hold on.

Just go ahead and finish up and then I'll talk more.

MR. SMITH: Oh, no. Mr. Hood, I know me and you have had these kind of conversations. I wanted to put it on the record because, you know, I step away from this work to make money, you know?

I'm not here -- I'm a developer, I have a community-based organization. I definitely want to team within this project, considering I've been pushing for it for over 12 years and I have a team of developers, a team of contractors that really would like a big slice of this pie.

So I'll wrap up in saying I'm definitely in support of this project, contingent on some sort of community benefits agreement or commitment from WMATA that they'll make sure and ensure that the things that the community really wants, not just in amenities, whether it's a grocery store, a UDC or what have you, but the contract dollars, that some reasonable percentage go directly to the community, the same way we had it when folks like Marion Barry was here, when we were thriving as a culture.

I think that that is my main impetus on this testimony, that it's more about, to me, the economic impact and the opportunity for the community to serve in a leadership role. So thank you for allowing me to testify.

1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Thank you. 2 And I let that go because I know Mr. Lloyd Smith was a 3 commissioner on this commission for years. I've actually looked at a lot of his records. He went through some of the 4 5 same stuff that we're doing here. I was put on here, as you know, Mr. Smith, by Marion Barry and I tell people I'm still 6 7 here. So and I'm trying to do the best that I can, just 8 like I'm sure Mr. Smith and Jerrily Kress and all of those people who I've served with who've now even are deceased, 9 but I will say this to you, there's a regulation that I go 10 11 by and have to go by, and get where you're talking about, 12 there's some more things I would like to say, not necessarily specific to this case, but we can do that if me, 13 you and Mr. Holmes want to get together and, like you say, 14 15 chop it up, I'm willing to do that because I think that's 16 the correct forum for that and this is not that forum, but 17 hold tight (crosstalk). 18 MR. SMITH: I agree, thank you. 19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Hold tight. We may have some 20 more questions for you. 21 Vice Chair Miller? 22 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you, David Smith, for your testimony today and thank 23 you for your work and your family's work with continuing the 24 25 legacy of the community service work and I hear your

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    frustration and I would just say continue your advocacy on
    all fronts. I wish we could do more in the context of this
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    case, but I understand where you're coming from and I
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    appreciate your being here tonight and all the work that you
    do in the community.
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              MR. SMITH: Thank you, thank you. I just hope you
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 7
    guys, you know, have this conversation amongst --
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, hold tight. Hold tight,
    Mr. Smith. Hold tight.
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              Commissioner Stidham, any questions or comments?
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              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Thank you for your service
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    and your time here this evening.
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Commissioner Imamura,
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    any questions from you?
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              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA:
                                     Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I
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    echo Vice Chair Miller and Commissioner Stidham's comments.
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    Thank you, Mr. Smith for being here. Also, to underscore
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    what Chairman Hood mentioned about the ANC, but this applies
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    to organizations like Deanwood or its citizens, but there's
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    a lot -- you have a lot of influence for shaping decisions
    by participating in the public process, so again, thank you
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22
    for being here.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And Mr. Lewis, do you have any
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    cross? Okay.
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Chair Holmes, do you have any cross?

1 COMMISSIONER HOLMES: No, I do not. 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And Mr. Smith, it's good 3 to hear you again, even though I didn't see you, it's been some years. But again, I often think about those who came 4 5 before me, your grandfather and I know you and I have had discussions and if you and Mr. Holmes put it together or get 6 7 in touch with me and let's chop it up for about an hour or so and nothing case specific, we're not talking about this 8 case, believe me, because I would be in a whole lot of 9 trouble, so it won't be having nothing to do with this case, 10 11 but let's do that. I'm going to take you all up on that if 12 you wish to do that. All right. 13 Ms. Schellin, who do we have next? 14 MS. SCHELLIN: The opponent, which is Javier 15 Sanchez. 16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And Mr. Sanchez is 17 representing Deanwood, right, he's the representative? MS. SCHELLIN: Well, no, because only one of them 18 19 can represent them (crosstalk). 20 MR. SANCHEZ: Right. 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. 22 MS. SCHELLIN: So he gets three minutes. MR. SANCHEZ: Okay. So I am actually -- it was --23 24 I'm representing the Deanwood Citizens Association. 25 have -- as an entity has expressed a letter of support, so

it's a proponent for the map amendment and I want to just 1 2 say thank you for everybody from WMATA's team, David and Mr. 3 Howard and the crew there for their outreach to the community, both to the DCA and the ANC and the rest of the 4 5 community here in Deanwood and to listen to our input, our community preferences in regards to basically what we've 6 expressed to WMATA since, you know, they've come to the 7 community. And I know there's a lot of history involved. 8 You, no doubt, heard from Mr. Smith and Chairman Holmes in 9 regards to the long, long project and we are absolutely, you 10 11 know, onboard with this, but we wanted to also take the time 12 to express some reservations in regards to, you know, CBA not being included in the I would say package that I know 13 that this form is not, you know, the right, you know, 14 15 mechanism to, you know, put something into place such as a 16 CBA. 17 But I just wanted to also say that we are a little 18 disappointed that, you know, WMATA did not -- you know, 19 absent of a CBA, you know, did not come to the table as far as like, you know, another innovative way to, you know, 20 think outside the box and, you know, to, you know, put some 21 22 of our priorities -- actually or all of the priorities, as we've expressed to WMATA, into, you know, something binding 23 24 to increase accountability and so that way, they can gain

trust, you know, ore we can gain trust from WMATA. We want

1 to be -- we want to make sure that the community drives the 2 development agent agenda during the RFP selection and we 3 want to make sure that the developments that occur do 4 reflect the community input and to ensure that the selected 5 developers at the end, I know that this is not -- this is, you know, a developer or a project has not been, you know, 6 7 awarded, but we want to make sure that these developers are held accountable and, too, that they're not just doing 8 things without the community's input and consent. 9

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We want to make sure that these conversations are, you know, alive and as the project evolves and we want to make sure that those regular input are, you know, done, you know, like the outreach and the engagement that WMATA has done throughout this engagement. So, you know, we just don't want WMATA to say oh, okay, here you go developer, do your job and then radio silence from WMATA and developers, you know, doing a 180. So we want to make sure, you know, we want accountability, even though we do support the rezoning amendment and, you know, there was something that we're antidevelopment, but we're not. So this does not send a message or signal to, you know, businesses, you know, opening here. We're, you know -- we support our small businesses, our local businesses here in Deanwood and so that -- raising concerns and community preferences does not equate to antidevelopment, so I want to make sure that David

understands that and the rest of WMATA also understands that as well. So yeah, I will -- I hope I've used all my three minutes there and thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So I want to make something clear, I get it. You know, I've grappled with this process, this process in place. Mr. Smith, even when your grandfather was here, this process was in place when I got here, but I know there are other -- and I'm just saying me because I'm probably the longest serving right now, but I do know that you can enter into agreements. I'm comfortable to a point because we have Mr. Ways and we also have Mr. Holmes, you know? And we have you, Mr. Smith and you, Mr. Sanchez.

You all can -- just have to hold your feet to the fire and you all had to enter agreements, but our process limits us. The question is, is it consistent. Is this map amendment consistent? And that's the threshold question for us. But, you know, you can enter into agreements. I can tell you personally, I always have had issues with not being able to talk about a project, but I also have learned, I've said this before, I've learned to follow the regulations.

So I have to follow it and there are other avenues, maybe the RFP process, this comes up all the time here recently. I've been here 25 years and here in the last couple of years, this issue has been coming up. So I don't

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    know what we're doing different now than we did then because
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    we're still doing the same process, map amendments.
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    still doing that, but the issue wasn't attaching anything to
    it. We tried once, I think, and legal counsel correct me,
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    and I think the court sent it back to us. So that's why I'm
    saying I don't want to put us on promised land.
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    Commission, we know we can't do anything about the community
    benefits package, but it's not that I don't endorse it, not
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    that I don't say go for it, get it how you can, keep working
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    at it and the RFP process, keep working with WMATA or
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    whomever the developer is, keep doing it, but I do know it
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    does not follow in this process and I will leave it at that
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    for now.
              All right. Any other questions or comments of Mr.
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    Sanchez?
              Vice Chair Miller?
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              VICE CHAIR MILLER: Chairman, no. Thank you, Mr.
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    Sanchez for your comments and I would just echo the
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    chairman's comments. This map amendment does facilitate the
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    types of uses that the community wants, whether it's the
    public library, whether it's market rate housing or whether
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    it's a grocery store or other neighborhood serving
    commercial uses. We can't require it in this process, but I
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    do encourage, as you have, WMATA and the future developer of
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    the site to continue to listen to the community's concerns
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    and go and include within this project important benefits to
    the community, like a grocery store in addition to the
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    public library that will be coming, so that's all, Mr.
    Chairman, thank you.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you.
              Commissioner Stidham, any questions or comments?
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              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: No, sir, not at this time.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I want you all to know it's
    raining real hard over here, so anyway. Luckily --
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    hopefully, my window's up, my wife would -- anyway, I'm
    talking out loud.
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              Commissioner Imamura, any questions or comments?
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              Okay. All right.
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              Mr. Lewis, are you laughing because I might have
    water in my car? I see you smiling. Are you laughing about
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              MR. LEWIS: I really hope -- I really hope I'm not
    in the same boat.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. No, I'm not finished
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    Ms. --
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Oh, okay, I just wanted to make
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    sure.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah. So Mr. Lewis, yeah, I'm
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    just messing with you. Do you have any questions of Mr.
25
    Sanchez?
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              MR. LEWIS: No, sir. Thank you.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Chair Holmes, do
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    you have any questions of Mr. Sanchez?
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              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: No, sir. Thank you.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right, Ms. Schellin.
              Thank you, Mr. Sanchez. And we get it, we get it.
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    Trust me, we get it. I definitely, but we all get it.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Can we bring up the
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    other witness?
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, that's Jennifer Stecklow and
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    she was listed as undeclared and is it safe for Mr.
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    Sakinejad to take down Mr. Sanchez and Mr. Smith now? You
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    don't need them up anymore?
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We can leave them up just in
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    case we might have to come back to them. Let's just see.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: Okay, all right.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We don't have a crowd.
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              MS. SCHELLIN: So Ms. Stecklow is the last
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    witness.
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              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Ms. Stecklow, you may begin.
              MS. STECKLOW: As you've made very clear what the
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    purpose of today is, so I don't want to reiterate things
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    that have already been made, but I do have a statement that
    I would appreciate reading. So my name is Jennifer Stecklow
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    and I hold the position of treasurer for both Deanwood
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1 Citizen Association and the Friends of Deanwood Library. 2 I'm also the vice chair of the DC Economic Development Committee, along with Javier Sanchez. Both are volunteer 3 run organizations that work to advocate for positive change 4 5 and development in Deanwood. Today, I'm here before the board as a resident of Deanwood and I appreciate the 6 7 opportunity to speak before this commission. 8 I want to start by thanking WMATA and Howard Ways, Dave Lewis and Shane who have been very open to hearing from 9 the community regarding this particular development. 10 11 want to clarify why is the community asking for grocery 12 stores. Ward 7 has only three grocery stores, which represents four percent of all of the grocery stores in DC. 13 14 While Wards 1 to 6 have 92 percent of the grocery stores with Ward 3 alone having 16 stores. To put this into 15 16 perspective, that's one grocery store for every 5,000 Ward 3 17 residents compared to one for every 25,000 residents in Ward 18 This stark contrast highlights the disparities in our 19 access to basic essential services. And why does the 20 community want market rate housing? As you've heard ANC7C has exceeded our affordable housing numbers by 225 percent. 21 22 In fact, if all pending and ongoing affordable housing projects from the DC Government proceed, 49 percent 23

of all affordable housing in the district will be

concentrated east of the river, while Wards 1, 2 and 3 will

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have less than 12 percent. This concentration of affordable housing in Ward 7 and 8 without the necessity amenities exasperates existing inequalities and places an undue burden on our residents. The lack of grocery stores, health facilities and other businesses not only affects the quality of life but also poses significant challenges to community wellbeing. Deanwood is a neighborhood that has faced systematic neglect and underinvestment, resulting in significant disparities in basic amenities, education, healthcare and economic opportunities compared to other

parts of the city.

WMATA has an opportunity to provide much needed development, such as market rate housing, a grocery store and commercial spaces for amenities that we need. If they do receive the board's approval, I hope that they will be good partners and allow a member of the ANC or a member of Deanwood Citizens Association to have an official seat during the RFP process and throughout the duration of the project. Thank you for your time.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Ms. Stecklow, I really appreciate your testimony. I appreciate all the testimony I heard and I don't disagree with any of it. I agree with all of the testimony I've heard and I'm taken back by your numbers. I've never heard it put that way about the grocery stores, so thank you for -- you know, I

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    knew it, but I just never knew it was that much of a
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    variance from Wards 1 through 3, so anyway, thank you for
 3
    your testimony. Let's see if others have any questions or
 4
    comments.
              Vice Chair Miller?
 5
              VICE CHAIR MILLER: No questions. Yes, I would
 6
 7
    thank you -- I thank you for your testimony tonight and I
8
    would echo the Chairman's comments about thanking you for
    pointing out the inequity. The numbers speak volumes. It's
9
    not right, not right.
10
11
              MS. STECKLOW: Thank you.
12
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Commissioner Stidham, any
13
    questions or comments?
14
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM:
                                     No, I don't. Thank you.
15
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And Commissioner Imamura, any
16
    questions or comments?
17
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: No questions. Thank you,
    Ms. Stecklow.
18
19
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Ms. Stecklow, I will say this,
20
    people probably say -- I've had this asked to me one time
    where one of the councilmembers asked me well, Anthony, I
21
22
    mean Chairman Hood, if you -- in a hearing, if you didn't
    like it, why did you vote for it. It's because we have to
23
24
    go by the regulations. And I'll tell you what I told -- I'm
25
    just saying that conversation, I told the council, in front
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of the council, I said, you know, there's no, there's no
 1
    regulations that says does Anthony Hood like it or not.
 2
    you know, we -- and I think it doesn't say whether the
 3
    Commissioners like it or not. So when we hear those things,
 4
 5
    they're disturbing, but we also have our regulations to go
    by. And I'm sitting here thinking about, you know, when I
 6
 7
    hear what you're saying and that comment about the grocery
8
    stores, I didn't know it was that, to that deep. So I'm --
    anyway, maybe I'm thinking and talking out loud, but we
9
    think about these things longs after these hearings are
10
11
    over, how can we make the difference that makes a
12
    difference. And it's more than just vote no, we have to go
13
    by the regulations.
14
              That's why as the community, you all have the
15
    power as organizations, you all can work together, but
16
    again, I agree, I think Mr. Ways, he knows his way around
17
    town, and I believe he's going to come through for us.
18
    I'm looking forward -- years from now, I know I'm not going
19
    to regret what I'm saying here today, I'm sure of it, you
20
    know, I'm very sure of it. So let's see, Mr. Lewis, do you
    have any comments for Ms. Stecklow, I mean cross?
21
22
              MR. LEWIS: No, sir. Thank you.
23
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And Chair Holmes, I don't see
24
          I know you're still here.
              COMMISSIONER HOLMES: I'm definitely here.
25
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1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Do you have any 2 questions? 3 COMMISSIONER HOLMES: No comments, thank you. 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Thank you, 5 Ms. Stecklow. 6 MS. STECKLOW: Thank you. 7 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Mr. Lewis, do you have any rebuttal or any closing? 8 9 MR. LEWIS: I'll just -- I'll combine it all into one if that's okay. 10 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes. 12 MR. LEWIS: I just wanted to start off by thanking 13 everyone again for the time this evening, particularly, especially Chairman Holmes and members of the DCA. We've 14 15 had lots of phone calls and working sessions and I realize 16 how hard they've been working and just really appreciate 17 them for doing that, putting the time into this map amendment application. And I'll just kind of close by 18 19 saying WMATA has given a lot of thought to why this 20 proceeded as a map amendment application and the simple answer is we think that's the fastest route, the best route 21 22 to deliver the economic development and these other 23 amenities that we've heard about this evening. 24 We think that the map amendment is the right 25 vehicle here and it's the straightest path to the investment

1 in Ward 7 and particularly in Deanwood that's long overdue 2 from WMATA's perspective. So that was the genesis of the map amendment pathway. We talked long and thought hard 4 about what was the right approach here and we think that's the right answer.

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I would also point out Chairman Hood that WMATA is also a creature of statute and is bound by its rules and regulations and sometimes limited, unfortunately, in what it can and cannot do in terms of how it enters into agreements or not and so we've had to grapple with that and I would say emphatically that we've had many conversations where WMATA has shown over and over again that it is going into and coming out of these conversations with open ears in terms of what the communities ask for and I think that's evidenced by the exercise we've been through already and the path forward that has been established largely, frankly, through Mr. Ways' and others at WMATA but their commitment here.

So I'll close just by pointing out that we think it's a -- as an application that needs to be shown is not inconsistent with the comprehensive plan, we think it satisfies that standard quite readily, in addition to all of the other items we've talked about this evening. Thank you very much for your time.

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Ways and to the team. Thank you to the public who have come

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1
    down to testify. I'm hoping that the dialogue continues
    that, you know, we just don't keep putting east of the
 2
 3
    river, as Chair Holmes said, on promised land. Let's get it
 4
    done for them in the best way we can and let's get -- let's
 5
    start putting those amenities or whatever needs to be done
    evenly distributed across the city, which I think,
 6
    especially -- well, I don't want to get into that.
 7
    leave that alone because I don't want to offend another part
8
    of the city.
9
              All right. What do my colleagues think? Are we
10
11
    waiting on anything? I think what we have before us, I
12
    think -- are we ready -- I'm ready to move forward. Let me
    hear from others. Vice Chair Miller?
13
14
              VICE CHAIR MILLER: I'm ready to move forward as
15
    well.
16
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD:
                                 Okay.
17
              Commissioner Stidham, are you ready?
18
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes, ready.
19
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Commissioner Imamura? Okay.
20
              Ms. Schellin, is this a two vote -- I've got --
    since we changed the rules, I don't know what's -- okay.
21
22
    It's a two vote, okay. All right. We're not asking for
    anything, I don't think. Check and see something here,
23
24
    okay. All right. So would someone like to make a motion?
25
              VICE CHAIR MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I would move
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1
    that the Zoning Commission take proposed action on Zoning
 2
    Commission Case No. 24-02, the map amendment of the Deanwood
    Metro Station site, I hesitate to mention all of these
 3
    square and parcel and lot numbers. I think I won't, unless
 4
 5
    Ms. Schellin thinks I should do it for the record, okay. I
    would move the map amendment for the Deanwood Metro Station
 6
 7
    site that we've been discussing all afternoon and evening
8
    and with the regular IZ designation noted as recommended by
    the Office of Planning and ask for a second.
9
10
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Second.
11
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. It's been moved and
12
    properly seconded. Any further discussion?
13
              Not hearing any, Ms. Schellin, would you do a roll
    call vote, please?
14
15
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Miller?
16
              VICE CHAIR MILLER: Yes.
17
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Imamura?
              COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yes.
18
19
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Hood?
20
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes.
              MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Stidham?
2.1
22
              COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: (No response).
23
              MS. SCHELLIN: The vote is four to zero to one to
24
    approve the proposed action of Zoning Commission Case No.
25
    24-02 and that is without IZ applying, correct, Commissioner
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Miller?
1
 2
              VICE CHAIR MILLER: Without IZ Plus applying.
 3
              MS. SCHELLIN: IZ Plus, I'm sorry, IZ Plus
 4
    applying, that's true. And we'll ask the Applicant to
 5
    provide a draft order in two weeks, within two weeks. And
    we'll refer this to NCPC and this will not come up until --
 6
 7
    for final until some time in September. Thank you.
8
              CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Anything else, Ms.
9
    Schellin, anything else on this case? Okay. Let me just
10
    say this first, the Zoning Commission will meet again July
11
    the 18th, which is this Thursday, Zoning Commission Case No.
12
    23-24. This is the Eckington Mews LLC and we'll be meeting
13
    at 4:00 p.m. on these same platforms. I want to thank
14
    everyone for their participation tonight. The community, as
    well as the WMATA and the applicant and the counsel and
15
16
    everybody, appreciate it. Let's continue to collaborate,
17
    continue to work together to make it work for the east of
    the river in Ward 7 with Chair Holmes and the residents of
18
19
    our great city. So with that, this hearing is adjourned.
20
    Good night, everyone.
21
              (Whereupon, the hearing was adjourned at 6:26
22
    p.m., Eastern Daylight Time.)
23
24
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1	REPORTER CERTIFICATE
2	
3	This is to certify that the foregoing transcript
4	In the matter of: Virtual Public Hearing
5	Before: D.C. Zoning Commission
6	Date: 07-15-2024
7	Place: Teleconference
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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13	Lee ann Jersien
14	Lee Ann Tardieu
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