1	GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
2	Zoning Commission
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9	Public Hearing
10	Case No 17-05 [2100 2nd Street Southwest, LLC
11	Design Review at Square 613.]
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15	6:32 p.m. to 8:41 p.m.
16	Monday, June 5, 2017
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20	Jerrily R. Kress Memorial Hearing Room
21	441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 220 South
22	Washington, D.C. 20001
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1	Board Members:
2	ANTHONY HOOD, Chairman
3	ROBERT MILLER, Vice Chair
4	PETER MAY, Commissioner
5	MICHAEL TURNBULL, Commissioner
6	PETER SHAPIRO, Commissioner
7	
8	Office of Zoning:
9	SHARON SCHELLIN, Secretary
10	
11	Office of Planning:
12	JENNIFER STEINGASSER
13	JOEL LAWSON
14	ALISA VITALE
15	
16	Department of Transportation:
17	JONATHAN ROGERS
18	
19	Department of Environment and Energy:
20	BILL UPDIKE
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

1 PROCEEDINGS

- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Good evening, ladies and
- 3 gentlemen. This is a public hearing of the Zoning
- 4 Commission for the District of Columbia. Today's
- 5 date is June 5th, 2017. We're located in the Jerrily
- 6 R. Kress Memorial Hearing Room.
- My name is Anthony Hood. Joining me this
- 8 evening are Vice Chair Miller, Commissioner Shapiro,
- 9 Commissioner May, and Commissioner Turnbull. We're
- 10 also joined by the Office of Zoning staff, Ms. Sharon
- 11 Schellin, as well as the Office of Planning staff,
- 12 Ms. Steingasser and Mr. Lawson and Ms. Vitale, the
- 13 District Department of Transportation, Mr. Rogers,
- and the District Department of Energy and the
- 15 Environment, Mr., I want to say Updike.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. I
- 18 remember everybody's name. Mr. Updike. Okay. This
- 19 proceeding is being recorded by a court reporter and
- 20 is also webcast live. Accordingly, we must ask you
- 21 to refrain from any disruptive noises or actions in
- 22 the hearing room, including the display of any signs
- or objects. Notice of today's hearing was published
- in the D.C. Register, and copies of that announcement
- 25 are available to my left on the wall near the door.

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- The hearing will be conducted in accordance
- with provisions of 11-Z DCMR Chapter 4 as follows,
- 3 preliminary matters, the applicant's case, report of
- 4 the Office of Planning, report of other government
- 5 agencies, report of the ANC, organizations and
- 6 persons in support, organizations and persons in
- 7 opposition, rebuttal and closing by the applicant.
- The following time constraints will be
- maintained in this meeting. The applicant has up to
- 10 go minutes. I see they have 45. Probably can do it
- 11 a little less than that. Organizations, five
- minutes, individuals three minutes. And I mean, we
- 13 need to hit the highlights. Flood plain and other
- 14 issues that are there.
- The Commission intends to adhere to the time
- 16 limits as strictly as possible in order to hear the
- 17 case in a reasonable period of time. All persons
- 18 wishing to testify before the Commission in this
- evening's hearing are asked to register at the
- 20 witness kiosk to my left, and fill out two witness
- 21 cards. These cards are located to my left on the
- 22 table near the door.
- Upon coming forward to speak to the
- 24 Commission, please give both cards to the reporter
- 25 sitting to my right before taking a seat at the

- 1 table.
- The decision of the Commission in this case
- must be based exclusively on the public record.
- The staff will be available throughout the
- 5 hearing to discuss procedural questions. Please turn
- off all electronic devices at this time so not to
- 7 disrupt these proceedings. Would all individuals
- wishing to testify please rise to take the oath? Ms.
- 9 Schellin, would you please administer the oath?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Please raise your right
- 11 hand.
- [Oath administered to the participants.]
- MS. SCHELLIN: Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: At this time, the
- 15 Commission will consider any preliminary matters.
- 16 Ms. Schellin, do we have any preliminary matters?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. We have the
- 18 proffered expert witnesses. I see that we have a
- 19 total of three, well actually four, or is it just
- 20 Jami that's here this evening? Jami Milanovich.
- 21 Amelia? Okay. And I don't think she's been accepted
- 22 by the Commission before. So actually, then, all
- three need to be accepted by the Commission. I don't
- 24 show that they've been accepted as experts before.
- 25 And their resumes are at Exhibit 16D.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Good evening, Ms.
- 2 Roddy. Let's go through the experts.
- MS. RODDY: We have Yulia Beltikova, who we
- 4 are proffering as an expert in architecture, Claire
- 5 Agre, who we are proffering as an expert in landscape
- 6 architecture, and Amelia Martin, who is an expert in
- 7 transportation engineering. If there are specific
- 8 aspects of their resumes that you'd like to walk
- 9 through, we're happy to do so. Or, if there's
- 10 questions you have, we're happy to answer.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Let's deal with Ms.
- 12 Beltikova. Beltikova? I don't want to mispronounce
- 13 your name. Let's deal with her first. Let's do the
- 14 architect first.
- 15 Commissioners, any problems?
- MR. MAY: I quess I don't have any problem,
- 17 but it is, her resume is a little lighter than we
- would normally see for somebody qualified as an
- 19 expert. I mean, nine years of experience. Granted,
- 20 some significant projects, but I mean, we normally
- see something more robust, but I'm not going to raise
- 22 a big issue on this one.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So, if I don't hear any
- objections, we will give her expert status in
- 25 architecture.

- Okay. Let's go to the next person.
- MS. RODDY: Claire Agre, being proffered as
- 3 an expert in landscape architecture.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Any objections?
- 5 Okay, not hearing any, so we will give her. Let's go
- 6 to the next one.
- MS. RODDY: Amelia Martin, an expert in
- 8 transportation engineering.
- 9 MR. MAY: Okay. So, this is where I have a
- 10 more significant issue. Three years of experience,
- and it says right on her resume that she is an
- 12 engineer in training. I'm not sure that we could
- 13 qualify somebody who is an engineer in training as an
- 14 expert. I mean, I understand you know, significant
- 15 project experience, but it doesn't seem to rise to
- 16 the level of being considered an expert in my view.
- MR. TURNBULL: I would concur, Mr. Chair. As
- much as she's done a lot of -- I think she needs to
- 19 have a few more years under her belt before we would
- 20 qualify her as an expert.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Does she work on
- these projects independently, or does she work with
- others? Is there a project you can point to on your
- 24 resume that you did independently?
- MS. RODDY: No, I believe most of those have

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- 1 been working with another engineer. With Ms.
- 2 Milanovich.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So, I would concur.
- 4 Any other comments? Okay. So, we will take her
- 5 testimony and we will listen to her. I mean, we
- 6 listen to everybody's testimony, but we will not just
- 7 give her expert status as she continues to go down
- 8 that road. Eventually, we'll give you expert status.
- 9 Okay? All right.
- 10 Anything else? Ms. Schellin, do we have
- 11 anything else?
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Yes.
- MR. TURNBULL: And we look forward to the
- 14 time when we can confer that.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, one more preliminary
- 16 matter. At Exhibit 25 the applicant filed a motion
- to waive the 20-day rule so that they could submit
- 18 revisions based on response -- revisions to their
- 19 application based on responses from the different
- 20 government agencies.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Is this -- when did this
- 22 come in? The 2nd. When was the 2nd?
- MS. SCHELLIN: I believe that was Friday.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And have those agencies
- 25 had a chance to look at -- review it?

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- MS. RODDY: I reached out to the agencies and
- 2 I only touched base with DDOT, who did have an
- 3 opportunity to review it.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Well,
- 5 we will proceed and see how this looks; how it goes.
- 6 Okay. Anything else?
- MS. SCHELLIN: I have nothing else.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right, Ms. Roddy. You
- 9 may begin.
- MS. RODDY: Thank you. As you know,
- 11 Christine Roddy with Goulston and Storrs and we're
- 12 here this evening with a design review application
- 13 for the former Coast Guard Headquarters in Southwest
- 14 Washington.
- The property is located along the Anacostia
- 16 River, between 1st Street and 2nd Street Southwest,
- 17 just south of V Street. It's located in the CG-5
- 18 Zone District and it is improved with an eight-story
- office building that has a height of 90 feet and an
- 20 FAR of 6.0. The proposed project will adaptively
- 21 reuse the existing building and convert it to a
- residential building with ground-floor retail.
- The project reduces the existing density from
- 24 a 6.0 to a 4.45, and it also reduces the level of
- 25 parking. There are currently over 1,000 parking

- 1 spaces onsite, and we are reducing that to about 360.
- The proposed building will consist of 485
- 3 units and will have approximate 70,000 square feet of
- 4 ground-floor retail. And the ground floor is
- 5 dedicated to the retail space in alignment with the
- 6 Buzzard Point Vision framework plan, in an effort to
- 7 activate the streetscapes and provide these vibrant
- 8 spaces that attract individuals to the site, with the
- 9 plan that they would ultimately then be attracted
- 10 down to the waterfront.
- The second floor of the building has been
- 12 removed to help provide the ceiling heights for the
- 13 retail spaces to help activate that space. And so
- what that means then, is that the residential units
- 15 are located on what is effectively the third floor of
- 16 the building and above. And this is important
- 17 because the final program really reconciles the goals
- and objectives of the Buzzard Point Vision framework
- 19 plan, which is again to activate those ground-floor
- 20 spaces and attract people to the site, while also
- 21 addressing DOEE concerns with respect to the
- 22 floodplain. It removes those residential units so
- 23 that they are located well above the 500-year
- 24 floodplain. The residential units are at least 21
- 25 feet above the 500-year floodplain.

- 1 This project also improves the Anacostia
- waterfront by creating usable space that can be
- 3 enjoyed by visitors and residents. The project was
- 4 designed to invite the public to the waterfront
- 5 through a series of passive and active trails, and
- 6 the applicant has spent a significant amount of time
- 7 with DDOT, DOEE, and OP in designing these spaces to
- 8 ensure that they're consistent with the Buzzard Point
- 9 Vision framework plan.
- And what we're presenting tonight is the
- 11 result of a lot of effort on a lot of peoples' part,
- and so we appreciate the work that the agencies have
- spent with us on this project, and we're very happy
- 14 with how the design has evolved.
- In addition to coordinating with the District
- 16 agencies, we have reached out to the park service.
- 17 They own the land to the west, to the south, and to
- 18 the east of the property. None of the improvements
- 19 that we are showing this evening are on Park Service
- 20 land. It will be critical that we continue to
- 21 coordinate with the Park Service as we move forward.
- 22 We want to ensure that the trails have a seamless
- 23 transition as they move between the two properties.
- 24 Finally, we had discussed that there are --
- we filed the response to the agency reports, and

- 1 that's a thorough response to each of the comments
- that the agencies provided. I will just note that
- the project will be LEED Gold. We are committing to
- 4 a 19-space Capital Bikeshare station, and that we are
- 5 working with DDOT through the Public Space process to
- 6 improve the area south of the 2nd Street turnaround,
- which was an item that was requested by both DDOT and
- 8 the Office of Planning.
- So, with that, I will introduce the first
- 10 member of our project team. We have David Orr, he is
- a representative of the project owner, and of Orr
- 12 Development.
- MR. ORR: Sorry. Good evening. My company
- is built in 33 states, and there are two things that
- 15 I think have defined this project. It's a unique
- opportunity for us to be in Buzzard's Point. And one
- of the things I want to say is, having built in 33
- 18 states, we have come across all kinds of
- 19 jurisdictional approval processes, and I want to tell
- 20 you in all sincerity, we've never been through a
- 21 better one than the one we've been through with the
- 22 District of Columbia. It has been a very
- 23 collaborative process, I think it has been very
- 24 forthright, and I think that we actually got a lot of
- 25 really good suggestions from staff that we

- 1 incorporated into our plan, particularly as it
- 2 related to the waterfront side of things, and on the
- 3 streets, and the relationship of the streets to the
- 4 retail.
- And so, the second thing I'd like to say in
- 6 stress is the involvement we've had with the
- 7 community, and I think Roger Moffett is here, and I
- 8 think that we had a unanimous ANC approval, and we
- 9 listened to the community.
- 10 What was stressed by the community was
- neighborhood retail. They didn't want to see a bunch
- of restaurants. We are going to have restaurants on
- the waterfront, but they wanted to see neighborhood
- 14 serving retail. So, I'm here to tell you that we've
- worked really hard and that we're going to be putting
- a market in the facility, some craft coffee shops,
- 17 some maker spaces. So, we're working really hard to
- 18 reach out and do neighborhood serving retail as we
- 19 know is sorely needed in this part of Buzzard's
- 20 Point.
- So, that's what I had to say this evening.
- 22 Thank you.
- MS. RODDY: And now, Julia Beltikova will
- 24 walk through the architectural features.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: I will try to be brief, and I

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- 1 will walk you through location, existing building
- 2 details, proposed design plans, renderings, and the
- 3 floodplain issue will be last, and then I will turn
- 4 it over to landscape architect.
- 5 We all know this is located in Buzzard Point.
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 [Pause.]
- MS. BELTIKOVA: We all know where the site is
- 9 located. It's in Buzzard Point. Immediately to the
- 10 west of the site across 2nd Street, we have James
- 11 Creek Marina. And immediately to the east of the
- 12 site is NPS Property proposed Buzzard Point Park.
- On the northeast corner of the block of V
- 14 Street and 1st, as we all know, there is a Capitol
- 15 City residential project of 88 V Street.
- Existing building is a former headquarters
- 17 for U.S. Coast Guard. The southern portion of the
- 18 site actually function as a back alley with open to
- 19 sky loading, large loading area with two existing
- 20 curb cuts.
- 21 A portion of the second floor is currently
- used, a parking level. In fact, there are three curb
- 23 cuts and three different unconnected entry points to
- 24 parking levels, two below grade and one above grade
- on second floor. Second floor is actually partially

- 1 exposed to sky, and if you are looking at the screen,
- 2 right where I'm hovering, there is a portion of that
- 3 second floor parking that's open to above.
- Let's see. There is a number of security
- 5 features that are located in the public space, such
- 6 as bollards and security planters that were part of
- 7 U.S. Coast Guard security, which we are proposing to
- 8 remove. Here is another aerial shot, a little bit
- 9 better view of 2nd Street, and of that large loading
- 10 dock area at the end of 2nd Street.
- 11 A quick summary of existing and proposed
- conditions, this is an office building. One of the
- unique features of this site is actually its
- 14 location. There are fantastic views of the water,
- and so we wanted to take advantage of that location
- and create as many units -- this is predominantly a
- 17 residential building, as many units as possible that
- would take advantage of the water views.
- So, we carved out roughly 187,000 square feet
- 20 of courtyards. There are four courtyards in this
- 21 building. And we tried really hard to work with the
- 22 -- not only to make this building full of light, but
- 23 also to work with the residential typology of a
- 24 building.
- 25 As David mentioned, there are 71,000 square

- 1 feet of commercial space. It's roughly 13 percent of
- the total GFA of the building. Four hundred and
- 3 eight-five units, which begin with level 3, roughly
- 4 21 feet above 500-year floodplain. Mechanical
- systems proposed for these buildings are VRF,
- 6 variable refrigerant flow units, which are very
- 7 efficient and do not use traditional boilers if there
- 8 is a concern for emissions.
- We have revised our LEED scorecard and our
- 10 LEED target to achieve Gold as opposed to what we
- 11 have submitted back in May.
- 12 There are 361 parking spaces. Existing
- building had slightly over 1,000. As Christine
- mentioned, we completely removed second floorplan,
- 15 second floor level to allow for a double-height space
- 16 for retail and commercial, as well as entries to
- 17 residential, and some of the ground-floor residential
- 18 amenities.
- We have also added a habitable penthouse
- 20 level that would be a nine-story. There is some
- 21 residential amenity indoor and out, and the habitable
- 22 penthouse is completely set back at one-to-one ratio
- 23 per zoning regulations.
- I will briefly walk you through plans,
- 25 starting on ground-floor plan. Speaking about the

- organization of the plan, it is bifurcated into north
- 2 and south retail. North retail facing V Street is
- 3 predominantly neighborhood retail. So, those are
- 4 potentially grocery store, drug store, and a coffee
- 5 roaster. Excuse me.
- We have provided, per comments with the
- 7 Public Space Committee hearing back in April and May,
- 8 a service corridor at the back of those retail
- 9 spaces, A, B, C, and D, that provides access to a
- 10 loading dock area accessible from 2nd Street.
- 11 Loading and trash.
- 12 There is also a retail dedicated elevator
- 13 located and exiting through a lobby on 2nd Street,
- 14 right where I'm hovering on the screen. Retail
- 15 elevator for access to P1 parking level, which has
- not only residential parking spaces, but also retail
- 17 parking spaces.
- We decided to go with preserving existing
- 19 elevator core locations. And in fact actually had to
- 20 add another new elevator, just how the building ended
- 21 up being configured.
- So, on the west side, right where I'm
- 23 hovering on the screen, there is a bank of four
- 24 elevators. So that shaft is actually existing.
- 25 Those two shafts. And on the east side, a similar

- 1 situation. The elevator core exiting to V Street is
- 2 a new elevator core. All egress stairs are new as
- 3 well.
- Now, going to south portion of the plan,
- 5 where we have three restaurants, we extended existing
- 6 floor slab, plus the structural column grade by 10
- 7 feet in the south direction, and we added a raised
- 8 outdoor terrace for seating for restaurants. That
- 9 terrace is on the same level with ground-floor for
- 10 ADA access, which overlooks over the Riverwalk Trail.
- 11 There are a few public space projections on
- 12 the southeast and southwest corner. Those completely
- 13 comply with the DCMR Chapter 32, for width, depth,
- 14 and height. And those are access point to restaurant
- 15 R3 on southwest corner there is an ADA ramp and a set
- of steps, and a similar situation on southeast corner
- 17 at the end of 1st Street, access to restaurant R1.
- Just briefly mention topography of this site.
- 19 The high point is actually in the middle of V Street
- 20 at elevation, roughly, 10. And then it slopes down
- towards the river, down 1st Street and 2nd Street,
- 22 and the vertical drop is roughly three feet. So,
- it's 10 at V Street and roughly seven and a half to
- 24 seven around the bottom of the raised stairs, and of
- 25 course it drops much lower at the river's edge.

- There is a total of four curb cuts on the
- 2 site. Three on 2nd Street, two for loading, one for
- 3 consolidated parking access to two below-grade
- 4 parking levels, and one on 1st Street, which is for
- 5 residential loading area.
- I will very quickly skip through parking
- 7 levels. We are providing some amenity within P1
- 8 level. Bicycle storage rooms, as well as some pet
- 9 spa, and enclosed space for pet relief area.
- Here is a configuration of a typical floor.
- 11 All of our courtyards are completely compliant with
- 12 the width and area per zoning requirements. In fact,
- 13 they exceed them by twice the amount.
- With the penthouse, as I mentioned before, it
- is set back one-to-one, and we have some area that is
- 16 residential amenity, indoor and out, with a raised
- 17 pool on the southern middle residential bar.
- Top of the penthouse roof is dedicated to
- green roof area, which is roughly 31,000 square feet,
- which we desperately need for storm water management.
- 21 There is a quick rendering of the outdoor
- 22 amenity area of that middle southern bar, with that
- raised pool that cascades into a more shallower
- 24 wading pool for sun bathing area.
- Page A-40 shows a pallet of exterior

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- 1 materials. We have divided them in two families.
- 2 One is for retail base, and the second one is for
- 3 residential levels that start at three and above. We
- 4 thought very hard and careful about choosing durable
- 5 materials. Especially because of the location of the
- 6 site, where the air could be saturated with more
- 7 brackish water, and more corrosion resistant
- 8 materials would be desired at such a location.
- We are using a lot of high-density fiber
- 10 cement boards, not to be confused with your regular
- 11 cementitious panel boards. And we have brought
- 12 samples of materials with us. We actually have our
- basis of design, high-density fiber cement board is
- 14 actually Equitone. We also brought a sample of
- 15 Nichiha panel. And if you compare them side-by-side
- and touch and feel, you can see that the density is
- 17 quite different and one product is quite a higher end
- 18 product than the other.
- So, we're using that, those Equitone panels
- 20 throughout the base, and on select residential bars.
- 21 We are using a number of metal panels, as well as
- 22 Trespa panel for accent points or accent panels to
- 23 highlight some of the areas in the façade. We are
- 24 also using precast panel on the western portion of
- the bar, and I'll show you through, when I go through

- 1 renderings of where those occur.
- So, looking at the aerial shots of the
- 3 building in the foreground, we are at the southeast
- 4 corner of 1st Street and Waterfront. At the very
- 5 ground level you can see the set of stairs and ramp
- 6 accessing that R-1 restaurant. This bar is actually
- 7 Equitone panels and a combination of Trespa panels
- 8 that you see in kind of wood texture, and orangey
- 9 tone.
- And then of course, to the south of the site
- 11 you can see the meandering Riverwalk trial with an
- 12 extended outdoor seating terrace attached to the
- 13 south façade.
- View of the 1st Street from Northeast corner.
- 15 So, you partially see some of the façade elevation.
- 16 Some of the rendering of the V Street façade. And in
- 17 the previous package I just wanted to point out that
- we submitted in May, we had some slanted walls right
- in the southeast residential bar. We have since
- 20 revised it due to value engineering and made it a
- 21 little bit flatter.
- 22 There are some projecting balconies on 1st
- 23 Street, as well as on V Street. Projecting balconies
- 24 on southeast corner on 1st Street are within the
- 25 property line. Projecting balconies on V Street,

- 1 northern façade, actually extend above the property,
- 2 beyond the property line. They do not exceed four-
- 3 foot projection on that street.
- 4 These are some of the enlarged elevations of
- 5 the facades pointing out the materials that we are
- 6 using throughout the building. So, that's the
- 7 Equitone panel and the Trespa panel is the accented
- 8 panel in select locations. That's portion of the
- 9 residential tower that uses ACM panel with some of
- 10 the corrugated aluminum siding panel.
- 11 This rendering actually shows our southwest
- 12 corner of the building. This is the west bar, which
- is treated completely differently from the rest of
- 14 the building. We wanted to create a feel of a
- neighborhood, and while breaking down the massing of
- this existing building, we wanted it to feel like
- 17 several separate buildings.
- So, 2nd Street, we took advantage of the
- 19 columns that are 20 on 20-foot existing grade, that
- 20 sit right at the perimeter of the existing floor
- 21 slab. And we wrapped them with the precast panels.
- We also did not want to create a completely flat look
- of that façade, so we recessed that façade eight feet
- to create outdoor terraces for those residential
- units.

- So, it's a sort of a layered façade or
- 2 precast panel, Trespa panel a few inches back, and
- 3 then a few feet back, actual entry to -- or entry to
- 4 unit or outdoor terrace.
- 5 Here, you start seeing the aerial shot of
- 6 that south terrace. That's outdoor and for use for
- 7 restaurant users, and we have an enlarged shot and
- 8 just a few renderings. There you go.
- Around the base of the southwest terrace we
- 10 are proposing to use some natural stone. And there
- 11 are samples in that box as well. Ruga stone to match
- 12 color and tone of Equitone panels that go up the
- 13 building.
- It also serves as a base for flood proofing,
- up to the flood proofing elevation, which I'll get to
- 16 it soon.
- And the final rendering of the south façade,
- 18 showing the three residential volumes with the two
- 19 courtyards, aerial views of the courtyards with the
- 20 terrace and the overview of the Riverwalk Trail, with
- 21 the NPS property to the east.
- 22 Flood protection. We all know that the site
- is located in the flood zone. It's a special flood
- 24 hazard area. By DOEE regulations -- excuse me.
- [Pause.]

- MS. BELTIKOVA: By current DOEE regulations,
- 2 nonresidential structures are allowed to be designed
- and constructed to be floodproofed up to the design
- 4 flood elevation. Design flood elevation in this case
- 5 is base flood elevation plus one and a half feet of
- 6 freeboard, which is 100-year flood line, plus one-
- 7 and-a-half-feet of freeboard, which takes us to 12.1
- 8 and NAVD-88 north vertical datum 1988 measurement.
- We are, however, proposing to go a little bit
- 10 beyond that and protect to up to six inches higher
- 11 than the current DOE regulation requires, and provide
- 12 a two-foot freeboard on top of the 100-year flood
- 13 line.
- There is an issue there. Our building, by
- 15 FEMA regulations, is considered to be residential.
- 16 So, even if there was a completely commercial
- 17 building and just one unit existing in that building,
- 18 FEMA would recognize it as a residential building.
- So, to go around that, our strategy was to
- 20 apply for a code modification and to change from
- 21 residential use to mixed use. Now, we are told that
- in order to do that we have to have substantial
- 23 amount of commercial and retail space within the
- 24 project, in order to be approved, considered and
- 25 approved for a code modification.

- We have, as I mentioned, 71,000 square feet
- of commercial and retail space at the ground level.
- 3 There are no residential units at that level. We are
- 4 protecting to slightly high than what's required.
- 5 And the flood proofing strategy would involve code
- 6 modification approval based on 13 percent, or
- 7 actually slightly less than 13 percent, 12.75 percent
- 8 of commercial space at the ground level, with a
- 9 combination of a dry flood proofing method, which
- includes constructing a substantial impermeable knee
- 11 wall around the perimeter of the site, up to the
- design flood elevation with removable floodgates at
- 13 the entry points around the perimeter of the
- 14 building.
- There are roughly 26 entry points around the
- 16 perimeter of the building. If we were to elevate
- 17 first floor to that elevation, so we would be about
- 18 two and a half feet higher than the sidewalk and
- 19 would require ADA access points at half of those
- 20 location. So, that's a lot of ramp.
- 21 If we were to elevate first floorplan to our
- 22 500-year flood line, that's an additional one and a
- 23 half to two feet. So now we are -- we would be
- 24 constructing a four-foot tall knee wall around the
- 25 perimeter of the site. That wall would be four feet

- 1 minimally at the highest point of the site, which is
- 2 V Street. This is where our majority of our retail
- is located, neighborhood retail, and would completely
- 4 kill the retail.
- of course the side drops by about three feet
- 6 as we walk down 2nd and 1st Street. So, that's an
- 7 additional three-foot drop that will create a roughly
- 8 seven to eight foot tall impermeable wall. So,
- 9 that's a stone wall that would be resistant to flood
- 10 waters. That's way above your eye level. It's not
- 11 conducive for retail space.
- Because we are providing manual floodgates,
- or also called active barriers which require human
- intervention, we will also provide a required floor
- 15 emergency operation plan. It states the flood
- warning time that will be issued to all occupants of
- 17 the building 12 hours in advance. It will also
- 18 delineate chain of command and responsibility amongst
- 19 the staff of the building. It helps that the
- 20 building is rental and every effort will be made to
- 21 evacuate all occupants of the building.
- 22 There, we're also providing a flood emergency
- 23 ingress and egress plan. We have revised that plan
- 24 since we have submitted on May 16th. We have added
- 25 an additional are of refuge on 1st Street, and I'll

- 1 get to that slide next.
- In addition to providing flood emergency
- 3 operation plan, we will also provide an inspection
- 4 and maintenance plan that will be conducted annually,
- 5 and that's to check on mechanical equipment for sump
- 6 pumps, generators, check on the flood shields
- 7 equipment, storage rooms, check for leaks.
- After that and while the permitting process,
- 9 as well as construction, we are required and we will
- 10 provide FEMA certificate for -- a flood proofing
- 11 certificate form, as well as elevation certificate
- 12 form. Again, at permitting and construction.
- Now, to jump to flood protection egress plan,
- we were showing a refuge area within the south
- 15 terrace of the property. It could hold roughly 920
- 16 people. We do not expect 920 people to stay during a
- 17 flood event. It is required that the flood emergency
- 18 plan is posted in at least two locations throughout
- 19 the plan. We are proposing that it's posted in
- 20 three. The two loading docks and the main
- 21 residential lobby, lobby 1.
- We have added refuge area 2, which is on 1st
- 23 Street, contained within the manual floodgates for
- rescue for those occupants or emergency personnel
- 25 that has to stay back. And that area holds roughly

- 1 81 occupants. The calculation is based on 90 percent
- of the area, 10 of it being designated to circulation
- 3 and the calculation is based on IBC standing room
- 4 space only, or five square feet per person.
- I will turn it over to Claire for a landscape
- 6 design presentation, and I'm sure we'll come back to
- 7 floodproofing a little bit later.
- 8 MS. AGRE: Thank you, Yulia. I'm Claire
- 9 Agre. I'm with West 8 Urban Design and Landscape
- 10 Architecture.
- We are the landscape architects for this
- 12 project, and as an existing project, we took a close
- 13 look at the existing landscape features and the
- 14 public realm around the site. Yulia already
- explained the context and that we're neighbored on
- two sides, substantially, and also in the water by
- 17 the National Park Service. So, we also have some
- 18 neighbors to consider.
- 19 As the landscape architects, the first thing
- we wanted to look at was the existing trees. We do
- 21 have quite a few existing trees on site. None of
- them are in wonderful health, and I saw the Casey
- 23 Trees letter elaborating on that as well.
- The good news is that we have a major net
- improvement in the number of trees, and also in the

- 1 quality of the landscape that those trees will sit
- within. So, we have 59 new trees coming in as part
- 3 of this plan.
- Just some more zoomed in images. These were
- 5 in your packet, but some of the trees that are really
- in superior shape, we're utilizing in the courtyards.
- 7 These are some crepe myrtles currently along 2nd
- 8 Street. We're taking approximate six of these up
- 9 into the courtyards.
- 10 And then this is a look at the existing
- 11 streetscape. So, I would say, as a landscape
- architect, not a lot to recommend here in terms of
- 13 the existing urban canopy. So, that is, there's
- nowhere to go but up here, on the side of the
- building. And so, we're bringing in and we've worked
- with DDOT quite closely to look at how to bring all
- of the best practices in terms of rain gardens and
- 18 soil volume to bring new street trees here.
- 19 Finally, a look at the existing condition on
- 20 the water's edge. There is a substantial canopy
- 21 here, but these trees that are located along the
- 22 riverfront are really subject to one of the most
- 23 brutal conditions along the rivers. You have a two-
- 24 mile fetch of open water going all the way down to
- 25 Northern Virginia. So, this part of the District is

- really pummeled by wave action and wind action, and
- 2 you can see the erosion here.
- Additionally, these trees that are there, are
- 4 short-lived and not in good shape, lacking soil
- 5 volume and are -- we don't expect them to last much
- 6 longer. So, we're entirely replacing the soils and
- 7 the landscape, and also bringing in new trees here,
- 8 according to the framework plan.
- So, I'm just going to walk us around the site
- 10 very briefly. You know, spend the most time talking
- 11 about the waterfront because I think that's of
- 12 greatest interest to this group.
- We had a few ideas as in collaboration with
- 14 the agencies that we think bring some signature
- moments to this part of the property, but also really
- 16 align with the goals of the framework plan and the
- 17 quidelines. One of the signature ideas is this idea
- of a floodable forest, and we're really bolstering
- 19 that with a look at very authentic materials to the
- 20 Anacostia and the Potomac region, and looking at
- 21 native plants and native specimens that are going to
- 22 bring habitat and also really perform.
- On top of that, we really need to layer
- 24 places for people. We have a 10-foot active trail, a
- 25 10-foot passive trail, and all of the associated

- 1 connections and cut throughs to make, to make sure
- that this is also a vibrant, active, happy,
- 3 successful urban place. This is a reference from a
- 4 project we did in Toronto.
- And then finally, we wanted to bring
- 6 something special. This is a confluence of the two
- 7 rivers and one of the most visible projects coming
- 8 into the Buzzard Point area any time soon, and we
- 9 wanted to make sure that we're bringing in active
- 10 recreation and opportunities to do something
- 11 different here. Just a nice reference image here of
- what it could be to bring kayaks and lots of
- 13 pedestrian activity.
- So, those are all the goals that we were
- 15 looking at as part of this project. I will go in a
- 16 little more detail on the site plan of the waterfront
- 17 here. Just one by one, looking at some of the images
- in your packet, this is on the southwest corner of
- 19 the building, looking at the largest of the rain
- 20 gardens, which is at the terminus of 2nd Street. We
- 21 have looked at a balance of native species, they're
- long-lived and very durable, and very well acclimated
- 23 to an exposed site like this, such as Cyprus and
- 24 black tupelo, and a palette of native plantings that
- 25 are also going to capture as much storm water as

- 1 possible.
- This is looking on the terrace that Yulia
- described, looking west. You can see they're quite
- 4 generous, and I'm just going to take us step-by-step
- 5 towards the water front. You see here, the flood-
- 6 proofing wall to the left of the image.
- Now we come down an ADA accessible ramp to
- 8 the passive trail. This passive trail could be
- 9 entirely comprised of pervious pavers. We're still
- 10 working with the working group on finalizing the
- 11 Riverwalk Trail material guidelines. That's
- something we've been an active member of, and
- 13 everybody is very excited about optimizing storm
- water infiltration. So, that's a material that could
- 15 occur here.
- Here, we are looking at the infiltrating rain
- 17 garden buffer between the active and the passive
- 18 trail. So, passive trail on the right of the slide,
- 19 active trail on the left. And again, we have a
- 20 really wonderful native canopy that's been giving
- 21 maximized soil volume, and is also creating these
- 22 infiltrating rain gardens in between.
- Just to look back at what the waterfront is
- 24 now, we're really going to turn this into something
- 25 that is much more people oriented. This is one of

- 1 two signature moments on the water front. We call
- this the sun deck. And this is this really wonderful
- 3 feature where the view of that long two-mile open
- 4 water and views down to Northern Virginia opens all
- 5 the way up. And so, everyone sitting on the dining
- 6 terrace and cruising back and forth along the
- 7 Riverwalk Trail, gets those views for the first time.
- 8 And it's a really grand open vista, in addition to a
- great place to meet, to stop, to sit, to fish.
- And you can see that it's really meant to
- 11 seamlessly integrate into the surroundings where it
- transitions to an area of higher canopy on the right
- 13 side of this image. This is what we call the
- 14 floodable forest.
- So, just a little more detail and resolution
- on these two features. The sun deck, we have cut a
- 17 cross-section here for you to understand all the
- 18 different layers that come into this part of the
- 19 site, from the dining terrace on the left part of the
- 20 slide, and then you see the passive, the
- infiltration, the active, and then this deck is
- 22 really interesting because it cantilevers over the
- open water. It's a pile supported structure, and
- then you have the ability to place rip-rap and stones
- 25 and interplant with native grasses to create a place

- 1 where people can actually step down to the water, and
- 2 also creates fish habitat and really wonderful
- 3 substrate for crustaceans and invertebrates.
- 4 This is just a little more detail showing how
- 5 you have the cut-off wall at the southern end of what
- 6 is terra firma, the infiltrating rain gardens, and
- 7 then the active trail and the sun deck are pile
- 8 supported over the river itself.
- The floodable forest is the other signature
- 10 element here. We heard from the agencies that
- 11 there's really a lack of kind of soft naturalistic
- edges, or the idea of bringing nature to the city, or
- 13 experiencing nature in the city. So, small as it
- might be, we wanted to create an area that really
- 15 felt like more of a kind of sanctuary at the edge of
- 16 the city. So this, when you cross over the active
- 17 trail, you have this small wetland area, which is
- 18 also interplanted with a major canopy of native
- willows and a tertiary trail we call the Adventure
- 20 Trail here, which you can see zig-zagging in this
- image. That goes down to about 4.5, so it's above
- 22 the tide level, but it would be floodable in a high
- 23 flood event. And those native willows can take that.
- 24 So, it's a really interesting landscape typology.
- 25 More importantly, though, I think is on the right

- 1 side of this image we have a natural stone beach that
- we've created here, and it's a place for people to
- 3 walk. A little bit more of a kind of adventuresome
- 4 experience, and also a place to pull up your kayak.
- 5 One of the few soft shorelines on the riverfront in a
- 6 design sense.
- 7 This is just another look at that. All of
- 8 these sections can conform to the guidelines in terms
- of the 25-foot natural buffer, and then the
- 10 recommendations for the 10-foot, 5-foot, 10-foot
- 11 active and passive trails.
- As I mentioned, we're working, we're sitting
- on the working group developing the guidelines for
- 14 the material palette for the Riverwalk Trail, and
- those will be forthcoming soon, but this project
- 16 would align with those. And one of the most
- important parts of the thinking there is about
- 18 durability and also infiltration for storm water.
- Likewise, with the landscape palette, we're
- 20 looking for things that are either native, or
- 21 natively adapted. Or sorry, which are adapted to
- 22 this part of the world, and are also going to be
- 23 quite resilient in terms of being submerged in
- 24 brackish water and can really perform and create
- 25 quite a lot of habitat.

- The last layer on the waterfront is really
- 2 about people. So, this is just a diagram that we
- 3 submitted on Friday, talking about opportunities for
- 4 seating. You have the more formal seating on the
- 5 terraces. But really, we also see the beach and the
- 6 sundeck as a more relaxed casual place to sit all
- 7 along the waterfront. So, we've just drawn that
- 8 here.
- And finally, public art. This could be a
- 10 really special place to do something a little
- different, which is more in keeping with the
- waterfronts, more about light, water, habitat, and to
- 13 think about the waterfront location. So, some
- interesting locations for art.
- We, in conversation with the agencies, there
- was a request to look at view sheds. So, we did an
- analysis of the 2nd Street view shed. This is what
- 18 you see today. You don't actually see open water
- when you're standing at V Street. You see the mass
- 20 of the sailboats from the James Creed Marina, which
- is a really lovely sight. We plan to open that up
- 22 even a little bit more.
- There is some existing emergent vegetation at
- 24 the end of 2nd Street. That has to be taken out as
- 25 part of the limit of work, but we will be framing

- 1 that view more strongly as part of our plan.
- On 1st Street, you have existing trees at the
- end of that street as well. These are sitting within
- 4 the National Park Service boundary, so we've made no
- intervention there, but we've followed DDOT
- 6 guidelines in terms of So, some interesting locations
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- 9 was a request to look at view sheds. So, we did an
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- 17 the end of 2nd Street. That has to be taken out as
- 18 part of the limit of work, but we will be framing
- 19 that view more strongly as part of our plan.
- 20 On 1st Street, you have existing trees at the
- 21 end of that street as well. These are sitting within
- 22 the National Park Service boundary, so we've made no
- intervention there, but we've followed DDOT
- 24 quidelines in terms of street trees and framing that
- 25 street. So, this view that you see in the upper

- 1 right of the slide would remain until the National
- 2 Park Service makes any intervention in their
- 3 property.
- Finally, I won't go through this in detail,
- 5 but we've worked closely with DDOT to understand and
- 6 follow their guidelines and this project would go
- 7 from building envelop to centerline, following those
- 8 guidelines, maximizing native grasses and
- 9 infiltration opportunities in the five by 10 tree
- 10 boxes on the first. On second, we've actually
- 11 lengthened those tree boxes as much as possible. So,
- beyond the 10-foot length we've actually gone up to
- 13 20 in some places so that you really wrap the west
- 14 side of the building with a more native expression
- 15 and kind of more Riverwalk like expression.
- And then finally on V Street, we follow the
- 17 quidelines as well with the more typical streetscape
- 18 quidelines.
- I'm not going to go through courtyards, other
- 20 than to say there's four different courtyards, four
- 21 different personalities, but we've looked at creating
- 22 a unifying level of detail. We've carefully thought
- 23 about how to bring distinct programs here. We
- 24 utilize existing trees from the ground plain, and
- 25 also really think carefully about the adjacent use,

- whether it's a more public or more private, and
- 2 create four really distinctive experiences, whether
- 3 it's more of a meditative program, more social. We
- 4 have a kitchen garden, a social theater. Thinking
- 5 about levels of privacy versus openness.
- And then of course, critically, given that
- 7 it's an existing building, we have to make sure that
- 8 we're creating construction detailing and we can
- accommodate the amount of top soil and robustness in
- 10 the detailing of the garden so that these are long
- 11 lasting, long lived gardens in those courtyards. So,
- 12 these are really beautiful, four beautiful gardens on
- 13 the building itself.
- So, with that, I will turn it over to Amelia.
- MS. RODDY: And I think that we can have
- 16 Amelia available for questions, and I don't know that
- 17 we need to go into a transportation presentation at
- 18 this point. I know that they're -- you were eager to
- 19 get into questions, so we're happy to have her
- 20 available to answer anything you may have with
- 21 respect to transportation.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Well, she actually has
- 23 five minutes. If she wants to do that, that's one
- 24 way she can eventually become an expert. So, let's
- 25 give her the time.

- MS. RODDY: Fair enough. Fair enough.
- MS. MARTIN: Thank you. I appreciate the
- 3 opportunity. Again, my name is Amelia Martin. I
- 4 work for Wells and Associates, and we conducted the
- 5 transportation study for this project.
- I'll just briefly go over some of the items
- 7 from that study and sort of summarize that. We've
- 8 already spoken a little bit about site circulation,
- 9 but this just sort of reiterates the different modes
- and how they access the site. This slide here goes
- into more detail on the bicycle circulation and
- calling out those elevator banks that allow people
- to, if you're a resident or you work at one of the
- 14 retail shops, to park your bike more permanently down
- in the garage.
- In terms of parking, both vehicular and
- 17 bicycle, we are meeting the requirements in long-term
- and short-term bike parking, and then also in
- 19 vehicular parking. I think it would be remiss to not
- 20 note that the applicant has agreed to provide a
- 21 Capitol Bikeshare station with 19 docks, and we'll be
- 22 providing that in conjunction with this project.
- In terms of the proposed loading facilities,
- 24 the applicant has worked with the Public Space
- 25 Committee to get approval for three different loading

- 1 areas. And then on top of that, working with DDOT on
- 2 back-in maneuvers which are required, giving the
- 3 existing site configuration and structure. So, we've
- 4 worked through those details.
- 5 The study also included some trip generation
- 6 estimates in terms of vehicular trips to the site.
- 7 During the a.m. peak hour, we estimate 178 vehicular
- 8 trips. And during the p.m., 483 would be coming to
- 9 the site on auto modes.
- Now, I'll just briefly go over some of the
- 11 transportation improvements that the applicant has
- agreed to. Notably, they have agreed to a
- 13 transportation demand management, or a TDM plan. And
- 14 the elements of that plan are summarized here on this
- 15 slide.
- One thing to note is the applicant has been
- 17 coordinating with WMATA and will continue to
- 18 coordinate with them on extending bus route service
- 19 to serve the southern Buzzard Point area. In
- 20 addition, we will be constructing a bus pad on V
- 21 Street and other elements to support a future bus
- 22 stop on that northeast corner of the site.
- 23 A loading management plan has also been
- 24 prepared, and again, the elements of that are
- 25 summarized on this slide. I would just note on the

- 1 final bullet point highlighted in green, that came
- out of our exchanges with the public space committee,
- 3 where we agreed that for all the loading docks, a
- 4 flagger, not necessarily a construction certified
- flagger, but an individual would be assigned to
- 6 assist in those different loading areas with in-bound
- 7 and out-bound truck maneuvers to ensure the back-in
- 8 loading doesn't have an adverse effect on any other
- 9 modes around the site.
- We have also agreed to an infrastructure
- improvement at 2nd and P Street to provide 150-foot
- 12 turn lane. No parking needs to be restricted or
- 13 taken away because of that. It's simply some
- 14 restriping to make the current roadway width more
- obvious to auto users.
- And then, this also looks at the streets that
- would be constructed to DDOT standards, and the
- 18 proposed cycle track.
- And then finally, I'll just talk a little bit
- 20 about DDOT's conditions of approval. The applicant
- 21 has agreed to most of these conditions. But one item
- 22 that's trickier to agree to would be providing
- 23 showers, changing facilities and lockers. Because
- 24 the project is not adding more than 25 percent gross
- 25 floor area, we're not necessarily required to provide

- 1 those facilities. However, the applicant has agreed
- 2 to provide lockers. But when it comes to the
- 3 changing rooms and the showers, given the existing
- 4 structure and the desired depth of retail space, we
- simply can't commit to that. It's not easy -- it
- 6 can't be accommodated in the same way the lockers can
- 7 be.
- And then the final item was a six-foot wide
- 9 sidewalk connections to satellite parking areas. And
- 10 the applicant has agreed, if we use the James Creek
- 11 Marina property to the west, which is really the only
- 12 property on the table right now, we would provide a
- new crosswalk at 2nd and V Street. But other parking
- 14 locations aren't really known at this time. So, the
- 15 applicant isn't willing to commit to that sort of
- unknown in providing those types of connections.
- So, with that, that's all we have in terms of
- 18 transportation.
- MS. RODDY: And that concludes our
- 20 presentation. We're happy to answer any questions.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you all very
- 22 much. We appreciate your presentation. Let's see if
- we have any comments or any questions up here.
- 24 Anybody. Commissioner May?
- MR. SHAPIRO: I just have a couple quick

- 1 questions. I'm sure there will be more when we hear
- 2 from the agency reports. So, I don't quite
- 3 understand this issue around where folks go during
- 4 the flood. And DOEE's concern about not having
- 5 people be on the river side. I mean, in a nutshell,
- 6 what's involved in this space? Does it have to be
- 7 designed in a certain way? Or is it about the size
- 8 of the space?
- 9 MS. BELTIKOVA: You mean the refuge area?
- MR. SHAPIRO: Yes.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: So, the refuge area has to be
- either elevated to the design flawed elevation, or be
- designed to be protected up to design flood
- 14 elevation. So, in our case we are chosen to keep it
- at the existing first-floor elevation, and protected
- up to design flood elevation.
- Now, the second portion of that issue is
- 18 access of emergency personnel during the flood event.
- 19 And then at what point do they rescue these people;
- 20 people who chose to stay inside the building.
- 21 So, DOEE report is suggesting that being on
- the south side, that's the side that's going to flood
- 23 the most. But, according to the cloud burst study,
- 24 actually, all four sides of the property would be
- 25 flooded. And it takes only a few inches for an SUV

- 1 to float. So, how would providing access on V Street
- 2 for a refuge area work in that case? It will work
- 3 the same way as is on south terrace. It would be a
- 4 rescue through boats.
- 5 MR. SHAPIRO: And you communicated this to
- 6 DOEE and what was their response? I'm sure I'll hear
- 7 it from them, but --
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Well, we actually had several
- 9 meetings, interagency meetings, where we have
- 10 suggested that area as a refuge area. To be honest,
- it was a surprise to read this in the report that
- 12 this was not acceptable as a refuge area. So, we
- 13 have provided a secondary on 2nd Street. I'm sorry,
- on 1st Street, with the higher elevation, but not as
- 15 high as V Street.
- MR. SHAPIRO: Okay, thank you. I'll actually
- 17 hold off for now. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Any other
- 19 questions? Commissioner May?
- MR. MAY: Okay. So, a couple things in this
- 21 project that I find curious. I am interested in
- 22 hearing about the flooding protection issue, and I
- 23 think I'll wait for the DOEE report to get into that
- 24 in great detail. But I just, I mean, there are a
- 25 couple of odd things. I mean, where is the actual

- 1 mechanical equipment that, I mean, I know you're
- using FRV whatever, VRF, sorry. But you have to, you
- 3 know, heat and chill stuff, right?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes, the mechanical equipment
- is required to be located above the design flood
- 6 elevation. So, we would elevate it either within the
- 7 ground floorplan on an elevated platform with an ADA
- 8 ramp or steps to it, or provide another space on the
- 9 third level, courtyard level space.
- MR. MAY: So, there's going to be chillers?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: There are --
- MR. MAY: On the third floor? Cooling tower
- or something? I mean, what's --
- MS. BELTIKOVA: There is no cooling tower.
- MR. MAY: So, I mean, how do you -- you
- normally see a lot of equipment on the roof.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes.
- MR. MAY: We don't see any equipment on the
- 19 roof. So --
- MS. BELTIKOVA: I will explain.
- MR. MAY: Okay.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: So, VRF units, they come in
- 23 many different sizes. And our strategy is to locate
- 24 them within each floor. The requirement is for
- 25 roughly 35 to 36 units, VRF units that would serve

- 1 roughly 485 dwelling units. It requires to have five
- 2 to six units of VRF on every floor. And so, we have
- 3 allocated those mechanical rooms throughout floor
- 4 plates, and they're typically close to the outside
- 5 wall to draw the outside air in.
- 6 MR. MAY: I'm sorry. They're close to the
- 7 outside --
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Close. They're in close
- 9 proximity --
- MR. MAY: Oh, close to. Okay.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: -- to the --
- MR. MAY: So where -- so, those will show up
- on the elevation, right?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes, as louvered panels.
- MR. MAY: So, where are they now? Can you
- show me one on the elevation now?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes.
- MR. MAY: I have to say, I believe this is
- 19 the first time we've ever seen that kind of an
- 20 approach. In Washington, it's just always on the
- 21 roof.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: It's typically used for
- 23 commercial buildings for office buildings, but is
- 24 quite an efficient system that --
- MR. MAY: You don't see them on office

- 1 buildings either. You know, everything was on the
- 2 roof.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: They're expensive.
- MR. MAY: Until all of a sudden, the roof
- 5 became more valuable.
- 6 MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes.
- 7 MR. MAY: I wonder how that happened.
- 8 [Pause.]
- 9 MS. BELTIKOVA: Actually, I'm going to point
- 10 them out on a typical floor, so it will make a little
- 11 bit more sense.
- So, we have a lot of these inside corners
- 13 that are not viable for a unit. There is no window
- 14 access. So, we are providing access to -- maybe I
- 15 can zoom in, actually. You see right, this closet
- 16 and there are two VRF units that are very close to
- 17 the outside wall. So, this portion of the wall would
- 18 be a louvered panel. And we have located them on the
- inside interior corners around the courtyards. So,
- 20 here is one location. Here is another one. And here
- is a third one, on the plan.
- So, they are on sections, building sections,
- 23 shown in elevations. I'll get to it in a second.
- 24 So, here is a section looking south, cutting through
- 25 the inside courtyards that are facing V Street and

- 1 1st Street. And so, that's that louvered panel right
- 2 here.
- MR. MAY: So, that entire vertical segment is
- 4 louvered panel?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes, they require a lot of
- 6 free area.
- 7 MR. MAY: Oh, I'm sure they do.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: I'm trying to get to another
- 9 location where -- so, here is looking the other way,
- 10 right? So, here is that inside corner with louvered
- 11 panels right there.
- MR. MAY: Okay. Okay. I'll look at the
- 13 elevations more carefully.
- So, the other thing that was puzzling is the
- 15 loss of 700 and some parking spaces. I mean, you
- 16 kept 300 on two floors, but there were three floors
- of parking all together. So, how did -- what did you
- 18 do with the other -- I mean, in three floors you had
- 1,000 spaces, and now in two floors you have 370.
- 20 Right? Is my math right?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Right. So, there was 1,028
- 22 across three floors.
- MR. MAY: Right.
- 24 MS. BELTIKOVA: That number came from the
- 25 certificate of occupancy for the building.

- 1 MR. MAY: Uh-huh.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: From 1972. We actually did
- 3 not count every single --
- 4 MR. MAY: So it might not have actually been
- 5 128?
- 6 MS. BELTIKOVA: Might not have, yes.
- 7 MR. MAY: But that's still, you've lost two-
- 8 thirds of the spaces, but you've lost one-third of
- 9 the floors that were devoted to parking. So, even if
- it was not quite 1,000. Did you do other things?
- 11 Did you use -- is the parking less efficient now
- 12 because of other stuff that's there?
- MR. ORR: Yeah, so what we've done is on that
- 14 floor of parking that's now amenity space.
- MR. MAY: Yeah.
- MR. ORR: Lobby space for the residential,
- and retail space. So, part of it went to uses, and
- 18 then part of it went away when we took the floor away
- 19 to create the ceiling height for the retail. So,
- when you add all that up, so we've taken a whole
- 21 floor out of the building.
- MR. MAY: I understand.
- MR. ORR: Yeah.
- MS. RODDY: And I'll add that in our
- 25 conversations with the ANC, one of their big asks was

- 1 they have a big concern with respect to dog relief
- 2 areas, and that is lacking in this community. And
- 3 so, one of the components that has been put into the
- 4 garage is a dog relief area, as well as a dog spa.
- 5 And that obviously takes up some space. So, that was
- 6 an important feature for the community, and it's
- 7 going to be important for the residents who are here
- 8 as well.
- 9 MR. MAY: Okay, I'm not going to go into the
- 10 dog relief area.
- MR. SHAPIRO: Literally.
- MR. MAY: Literally, no. It just seems a
- 13 little odd that so many parking spaces went away.
- 14 Okay. I'll accept that. I was just curious about
- 15 that.
- So, the portion of the property that abuts
- 17 the Park Service land, so that chamfered end, I think
- 18 that it, you know, it's well and good to assume that
- 19 there will be some sort of agreement on how that gets
- 20 redeveloped, and it will get redeveloped, and it will
- 21 all match up beautifully with what you are proposing.
- 22 However, there's always the possibility that it
- won't, or that it won't happen for another five years
- 24 after you've done your building or something like
- 25 that, because the Park Service doesn't have a whole

- 1 lot of money sitting around waiting for projects like
- 2 this.
- So, what happens in that circumstance is that
- 4 retail -- that restaurant space is going to be
- 5 operable if nothing happens with the Park Service
- 6 land for foreseeable future. Are you still going to
- 7 be able to access it? Is it still going to be
- 8 functional?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes, the main access to that
- 10 restaurant is on 1st Street. And on the secondary
- 11 access through outdoor terrace.
- MR. MAY: And you can reach it from -- it's
- 13 just big enough to reach that outdoor terrace?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes. Uh-huh.
- MR. MAY: Okay. I just want to have that on
- the record, because who knows when it will actually
- 17 get improved.
- So, I appreciate the analysis of the elevator
- overruns and the, you know, the actual inclusion of
- 20 sort of brand name elevators, so we know what you're
- talking about, because a lot of times we'll have
- 22 people say, oh, it's just not possible to do an
- 23 elevator that size. But it's -- I didn't check to
- 24 make sure that all of that is correct, but I have
- looked at elevators in the past, and I know that this

- is taller than the usual for -- we set the 15-foot
- 2 height limit after a lot of debate, knowing that it
- 3 was going to be a push for a lot of buildings. And I
- 4 think it makes sense for the zone but maybe not for
- 5 this particular height, given that it's taller than
- 6 would otherwise be required in the zone. So, I think
- 7 I'm okay with that.
- The statement about the inability to provide
- showers and changing rooms, I mean, I just don't buy
- 10 that. I mean, you can provide a pet relief area and
- 11 a pet spa, and you can't provide a place for workers
- 12 to take a shower? I mean, it just seems not really
- 13 correct.
- Now, I'm not saying that it has to have it.
- 15 I don't think that there's anything, you know,
- there's nothing in the regulations that says you have
- 17 to have it. This isn't a PUD where we would just
- 18 push you to create it. But, you know, to come here
- and say it's not possible, do it, it's clearly
- 20 possible to do it. So, you know, you don't want to
- 21 do it. That's, you know, that's your prerogative I
- 22 quess.
- Last question I have is the flood barrier
- 24 system. And there were some images that you provided
- in the submissions. And some of those looked you

- 1 know, like they were designed into the façade, and
- 2 some looked like they were just kind of bolted on
- 3 after the fact. So, I'm wondering, have you actually
- 4 gotten to the point of detailing those portals so
- 5 that it does not look bolted on? Like, that looked
- 6 bolted on.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes, we showed some images
- 8 just to simplify how manual flood there is work, this
- 9 is bolted on, this is not very attractive, but just
- 10 accomplishes the job of explaining how that works.
- MR. MAY: I understand that.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: This one is a museum in
- 13 Norfolk. And actually, they have, if you can see
- 14 their jams that are aluminum.
- MR. MAY: Uh-huh.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Right? And they're on the
- outside, and they exist there, they are not
- 18 removeable. We are proposing a completely removable
- 19 system, and so there is another image right here.
- 20 Right? So, you see within that masonry wall.
- MR. MAY: Yes.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Uh-huh. These stainless
- 23 steel bolts. They allow for those jams to be
- 24 removable. So, all you see are those bolts within
- 25 the façade.

- MR. MAY: Okay. It's good to know how you
- 2 intended to install it, because again, some of them
- 3 look like they're just sort of slapped on.
- That does sound like a lot of work, though,
- 5 bolting those things in. And I assume that your
- 6 annual maintenance would mean, also, you know,
- 7 assembling the thing.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes. Uh-huh.
- 9 MR. MAY: At least on an annual basis.
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yes. Part of the maintenance
- and inspection plan is actually also training of
- 12 staff and making sure that they remember how to put
- 13 this together, and they remember where everything is
- 14 located. That it's stored properly. There is a
- 15 specific way of labeling these gates because there
- 16 are so many of them.
- MR. MAY: Okay. Yeah. It's an awful lot.
- 18 Yeah, we're familiar with that from the levy system
- 19 that we maintain downtown, where we have a post and
- 20 panel system. It's bigger pieces, but it's the same
- 21 concept. So, all right. That's it for my questions.
- 22 Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you.
- 24 Commissioner Turnbull, do you have any questions,
- 25 comments?

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- MR. TURNBULL: Sure, Mr. Chair, thank you.
- Let me, and I guess I could wait for DOEE on
- 3 this, but let me just ask, one of the things you
- 4 brought up, and it's in one of your slides, is about
- 5 the 12-hour minimum advanced notice. Explain to me
- 6 how -- I mean, at some point in time we're going to -
- 7 you're going to realize, we've got a flood. It's
- 8 raining, it's pouring. So, when the 12 hours
- 9 advance, how do you do -- how are you going to
- 10 accomplish that? Do you have some internal speaker
- 11 system that Darth Vader gets on and says, get ready,
- 12 get out of here, or what?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: So, these details we will
- 14 have to walk through to work through, and that would
- be actually described in the flood emergency
- 16 operation.
- MR. TURNBULL: Yeah, I mean, I quess and I'm
- 18 assuming there is a place where people would go at
- 19 some point in the building. Or several places other
- 20 than the refuge areas that you're going to have
- 21 something set up for people to evacuate. Either
- vehicles will be there --
- MR. ORR: Yeah. So, we will go door to door.
- MR. TURNBULL: Oh, door to door.
- MR. ORR: Our property management company

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- will go door to door and make sure everybody is
- 2 notified.
- MR. TURNBULL: Oh, so you'll have either some
- 4 kind of an electronic tally system to make sure that
- 5 everybody has been notified, and that you've got
- 6 every occupant in the building has been notified.
- 7 MR. ORR: Yes, sir.
- 8 MR. TURNBULL: Okay. I wonder if you could
- 9 go back on to the landscape. You're making,
- obviously, a lot of landscape improvements. But it
- 11 looks like you're also making some landscape
- improvement not on your property?
- MS. AGRE: So, the water front -- thanks,
- 14 Yulia. The waterfront, you can see we are -- keep
- 15 going. All the way back.
- MR. TURNBULL: Yeah, you had a nice section
- 17 sort of cut through the waterfront.
- MS. AGRE: Yeah. That's good. So, on this
- 19 slide you can see -- sorry. Bear with us. The
- 20 signature moments in the waterfront I described are
- 21 all within our property line. So, if you follow my
- 22 hand here --
- MR. TURNBULL: Well, I wonder if you could
- 24 show, I think it's L21.
- MS. AGRE: L21. Here, let me go to the --

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- oh, thank you. I'm sorry.
- 2 [Pause.]
- MS. AGRE: So, this section cut here is all
- 4 within our property line.
- MR. TURNBULL: It's all within your property
- 6 line?
- MS. AGRE: Yup. So, the waterfront, the two
- 8 major moments I described on the waterfront, where we
- 9 go from terrace to either sundeck, or terrace down to
- 10 the beach area, are all within our property line.
- 11 The only areas outside of our property line are those
- 12 that, through discussion with DDOT, or OP, were about
- 13 connecting the cycle track up 2nd Street or about
- improvements in the public realm on the streetscape,
- on 1st, V, and 2nd. So those --
- MR. TURNBULL: So, the property line right
- 17 there is right at the edge of that beach area then,
- or -- whereabouts is your property line? You have a
- 19 little pointer you could show, or --
- MS. AGRE: Yes. In here. On this key plan,
- our property line actually goes out into the water.
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay.
- MS. AGRE: But our improvements stop at the
- 24 mean water line.
- MR. TURNBULL: So, the piles, everything else

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- on your property line, and that's the end of it then?
- MS. AGRE: Correct. And the same goes for
- 3 the beach section.
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay. And then as you were
- 5 talking about 2nd Street?
- MS. AGRE: Yes. So, when we go up 2nd
- 7 Street, in order to have connectivity -- and sorry,
- 8 bear with me again. I'm just going to go back to the
- 9 overall plan. If we were only to stay within this
- 10 trapezoid, which is south of the building and our
- 11 property line, there would be no connectivity to the
- 2nd Street cycle track. We wouldn't be making any
- improvements on the streetscape whatsoever, which is
- 14 no good for retail. So, the owner's group has
- 15 committed to building out to the center line of
- 16 1st --
- MR. TURNBULL: And that's being orchestrated
- 18 with who?
- MS. AGRE: With DDOT. We've discussed with
- 20 DDOT, OP -
- MR. TURNBULL: And so that's all -- everybody
- 22 is in synch. Okay.
- MS. AGRE: Yes.
- MR. TURNBULL: And the same thing is then
- 25 going on, on 1st Street.

- MS. AGRE: Correct. Yeah.
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay. Okay. All right.
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 Getting back -- going back to Commissioner
- 5 May's point about the VRF, and locations, they seem
- 6 incredibly small amount of space that you need to
- 7 handle what appears to be a very large building with
- 8 a lot of units. Do these -- are these going to --
- 9 how noisy will this be along that whole wall?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: So, the advantage of VRFs is
- 11 that they are much smaller and don't occupy as much
- 12 space as a conventional cooling tower, and that they
- 13 are very quiet. In fact, they are so quiet that
- 14 you're starting to hear noises from other mechanical
- 15 equipment or plumbing.
- MR. TURNBULL: Really?
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Yeah.
- MR. TURNBULL: Interesting.
- MR. ORR: So, with a VRF system, stands for
- 20 Variable Refrigerant Flow.
- MR. TURNBULL: Right. Yeah, I --
- MR. ORR: And so you're varying the amount of
- 23 refrigerant, and not the air. The air is what
- 24 creates the noise.
- MR. TURNBULL: Well, I think as Commissioner

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- 1 May had pointed out, we haven't really seen a lot of
- 2 these on most of our PUDs. And it's very
- 3 interesting. All right. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Vice Chair Miller?
- MR. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
- 6 thank you for your presentation, and all of the
- 7 changes and improvements you've made as a result of
- 8 comments you've -- your interactions with the Office
- 9 of Planning and with DDOT, with DOEE, and with the
- 10 ANC. I think it's a very attractive project that
- uses nice materials that really transforms what is a
- very boring federal office building, that is not very
- activating to anybody except those who used to work
- 14 there. But it really will activate the space, and
- it's very exciting.
- I like that all the terraces and the
- 17 balconies and all of the outdoor landscaping and the
- 18 connections that you make.
- I wonder if you, for the record, if you could
- 20 just for the benefit of the public, since it wasn't
- 21 part of your presentation, but I've read it and just
- 22 briefly summarize the affordable housing component.
- I think it's 3,200 square feet of -- at 50 percent
- 24 AMI, and 2,650 square feet at 60 percent AMI.
- MS. RODDY: That's correct.

- MR. MILLER: And the 3,200 at 50 percent AMI
- 2 is being triggered because of the penthouse habitable
- space.
- 4 MS. RODDY: That's correct.
- MR. MILLER: And the other -- you're just
- 6 providing out of the goodness of your heart, because
- 7 there's no inclusionary zoning requirement?
- 8 MS. RODDY: Right. What we did is what --
- when Yulia testified she noted the area that was
- 10 being bumped out, and so we took the approach of what
- 11 would be consistent with the Inclusionary Zoning
- 12 requirements, and so that equals eight percent of
- 13 that space.
- We are reducing the density on site by
- 15 180,000 square feet, but never the less, it's
- something that's important, obviously, to the
- 17 District and the community.
- MR. MILLER: And I see you added some larger
- units to some of those affordable spaces. So, what's
- 20 the -- I know, it's the square footage that's the
- requirement that will be in the zoning order, but
- 22 approximately how many affordable units out of the
- 23 485 will be affordable?
- MS. RODDY: It's approximate eight units. We
- 25 have included it in our last submission at the

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- 1 breakdown. And what we did was, with the market rate
- 2 units we actually had provided more of the larger
- units, and that would obviously then correlate, we're
- 4 doing the required amount of breakdown, the
- 5 proportionate required amount for the IZ units, so
- 6 accordingly there would be larger affordable units as
- 7 well.
- 8 MR. MILLER: Right. Okay. And then I
- 9 appreciate also that you've upped the LEED commitment
- 10 to Gold as opposed to Silver. I think that's great.
- 11 Are you seeking certification for that, or are you
- just making a verbal commitment to do the best --
- MR. ORR: Certification is pretty expensive.
- 14 So, we're going to make the commitment to LEED Gold,
- and we'll see if we get it certified.
- MS. RODDY: But it is designed to the LEED
- 17 Gold standard, and we'll have an architect certify to
- 18 that as we go through the permitting process.
- MR. MILLER: Okay. We had a former Vice
- 20 Chair of this commission who talked about the value
- of being able to put the plaque on the building that
- 22 says, certified by whatever, Green Building Council,
- 23 or whatever, that that does return value to you.
- MS. RODDY: We're not discounting it, but
- it's just something at this point that we can't

- 1 officially commit to.
- MR. MILLER: Okay. There was a question I
- 3 had, now I can remember what it was. But, you
- 4 originally were going to -- you originally had a
- 5 floodplain strategy of -- a flood protection strategy
- of raising the streets. And I guess you maybe got
- 7 some pushback on that. Without going into a big back
- 8 and forth, I'll ask DOEE maybe about it, but I would
- 9 think it would -- might want our streets not to be
- 10 flooded either. But --
- MS. BELTIKOVA: Our original application was
- 12 based on the assumption that the ground floorplan
- would be raised to the design flood elevation. But
- 14 along with it, adjacent street grades would be raised
- as well. Since the street grades are not allowed to
- 16 be raised, we discussed this during our interagency
- meetings, and it's an unprecedented process, we were
- 18 told. So, we were told a no.
- So, we redesigned the building to flood proof
- 20 with the existing grades.
- MR. MILLER: Well, I'll ask the District
- 22 agencies maybe to just briefly address that as well.
- I did have another question, but I can't
- remember it now, so maybe I'll come back to it later.
- 25 Thank you very much for your -- oh, I wanted to thank

- 1 you for mentioning that this is your first project in
- 2 the District, or you're in 33 states, but you said
- 3 this was one of the better --
- MR. ORR: This has been a more collaborative
- 5 process.
- 6 MR. MILLER: -- permitting experiences you've
- 7 had.
- MR. ORR: It's been a really good process
- 9 with all the agencies. We've had three interagency
- meetings and initially, it's like any other
- 11 relationship, right? We're on one side, they're on
- 12 the other, and then we meet in the middle. And I
- 13 thought that it was very collaborative. And
- actually, we've employed a lot of their suggestions
- in our design.
- MR. MILLER: Right.
- MR. ORR: Particularly as it relates to the
- waterfront and the integration of the streets up 1st
- 19 Street and 2nd Street. Those are you know, they're
- 20 pretty dismal right now and we're really going to
- 21 change that landscape there. And it's to their
- 22 credit how much they helped us get there.
- MR. MILLER: I appreciate all that
- 24 collaboration. That's good to hear that. And you're
- working with the community engagement as well. Thank

- 1 you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Let me ask this, and you
- may have mentioned this earlier, Ms. Roddy. The ANC,
- 4 I was looking at some -- they have support with
- 5 concerns. Did you say earlier that you accepted all
- of their issues or concerns?
- MS. RODDY: Yes, we did address their
- 8 concerns. With respect, one of their concerns, as I
- 9 mentioned, was the dog relief area, which we are
- 10 providing onsite. They also requested that there
- would be a neighborhood serving retail, which we will
- 12 be providing along V Street. And they also were
- 13 concerned with respect to affordable housing.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
- MS. RODDY: Which we are providing onsite,
- 16 rather than paying into a fund.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So you all have
- 18 adopted and worked it out with them. Okay.
- MS. RODDY: Correct.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: One of the things I'm
- looking at, I'm looking at the sequence of certain
- 22 things, and I can ask the government agencies, I
- understand that you went back and worked with the
- 24 agencies on some of the issues that were there. But
- in particular, I'm looking at the Office of

- 1 Planning's report, and I'm looking at the dates of
- when you filed things on -- that's why I was asking
- 3 earlier, on June the 2nd, I believe. Or at least
- 4 that's when you asked us to waive the rule. And that
- was done June the 2nd, and that was Friday, and today
- 6 is -- when was June 2nd? Friday.
- So, I'm just wondering, have the government
- 8 agencies had a chance to respond? And the reason why
- 9 I'm asking that, keep asking that question, because
- when I look at the Office of Planning's first page,
- 11 they have something that I haven't seen in a while,
- and it has in blue, "Note: compliance with the
- 13 District storm water management floodplain and
- 14 building code regulations would be required at the
- 15 time of building permit, and this report should not
- 16 be construed to imply conformance with other relevant
- 17 District regulations. Any ZC order should reflect
- 18 this. Furthermore, compliance could result in
- 19 building design changes that would necessitate a
- 20 modification to, or a rereview of the subject design
- 21 review case."
- So, that's what I'm asking. If you've made
- 23 some changed with -- if they have not had an
- opportunity to review, then we'll be back here doing
- 25 the exact same thing we're doing now. So, I want to

- 1 make sure that -- and I can ask them when we get to
- 2 them, have they had an opportune time to review --
- 3 because I'm looking at the dates. You all submitted
- 4 -- at least, the motion came in June the 2nd. I'm
- 5 looking at the dates of their report, which was the
- 6 last week in May, and I don't see anything. I did
- 7 see a supplemental from DDOT. But that even came
- 8 after the 2nd.
- So, I'm just curious of how everything fell
- 10 in one. Or maybe my discovery is incorrect.
- MS. RODDY: No, the Office of Planning filed
- 12 the report timely, and that was the Friday before we
- 13 filed our response. And with respect to their note,
- 14 this -- I think that speaks to the fact that this
- 15 design requires a code modification with respect to
- the flood mitigation that we referenced earlier. So,
- 17 I think that that's just a comment that we are
- 18 continuing to work through the permit process. We
- obviously have to go through this process before we
- 20 can get to the permit process, and that may result in
- 21 some modifications.
- 22 With respect to their comments on the design
- 23 that we're putting forward this evening, they
- 24 provided the chart, which we have addressed item by
- item in our response. And I, unfortunately, was not

- 1 able to touch base with OP. We reached out to them
- today but weren't able to touch base, and I believe
- 3 that we have responded to each of their items that
- 4 they provided in the chart.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Well, I'm sure that
- 6 when we get to them, I'll ask the question have they
- 7 had the chance to review, as well as DDOE, because
- 8 that concerns me because I hear what you're saying,
- 9 you responded, but they would be right back here
- 10 again doing the exact same thing. And we want to
- make sure we continue to have applicants that come
- down and say, what a great process we have in this
- 13 city, so we want to continue that fashion. We don't
- 14 get much of that. As a matter of fact, I don't think
- 15 I've heard that in a few years.
- But anyway, we appreciate your comments. Any
- other questions up here? Vice Chair Miller?
- MR. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
- memory came back. The market. I mean, 70,000 square
- 20 feet of retail is a lot of retail. You're
- 21 envisioning the market was going to take up a lot of
- 22 that, I assume. Are you in discussions with various
- retailers, but you probably can't say yet who they
- 24 are? You have identified a couple?
- MR. ORR: We have, and we are in discussions,

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- and there's some very exciting things that are soon
- to be announced for this part of the world, very,
- 3 very exciting retail things that I think will address
- 4 not only the community needs, but all of Washington's
- 5 needs, be very exciting things.
- 6 MR. MILLER: Okay. Look forward to hearing
- 7 about that. And on the transportation front, I'll
- 8 ask DDOT about this too, this whole area obviously is
- going to need that enhanced public transportation
- 10 access, not just for this project, but for everything
- 11 that's happening, going to be happening down there.
- 12 You said you were coordinating or discussing with
- 13 WMATA. Is there any real timeline that is being put
- 14 forward that coincides with when your project is
- 15 going to be operational?
- MS. RODDY: In terms of timing, I, myself,
- 17 can't speak to that. I have not been party to those
- 18 particular conversations, but I do know that we have
- been having these conversations and plan on
- 20 continuing to do that. But in terms of timeline, I
- 21 am not sure.
- MR. MILLER: Okay. I'll ask DDOT about that
- 23 as well. Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Any other questions up
- 25 here? Okay. Does the ANC have any cross? Okay, no

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- 1 cross. Let's go to the Office of Planning, District
- 2 Department of Transportation, and District Department
- 3 of Energy and Environment. In that order.
- MS. VITALE: All right. Good evening, Mr.
- 5 Chair and members of the Commission, Elisa Vitale
- 6 with the Office of Planning. While we appreciate the
- 7 applicant's continued willingness to work with the
- 8 District agencies, there are still some outstanding
- 9 issues. We were able to review the applicant's
- 10 supplemental filing from Friday, and while a lot of
- our concerns have been addressed, I think there's
- just a few areas where some additional information
- would be helpful, and I'll keep my comments focused
- on those items in the interest of keeping things
- 15 brief.
- With respect to the LEED certification, I
- 17 think we would like to see the applicant commit to
- 18 certification at the LEED Gold level, rather than
- 19 just, you know, committing to design to that
- 20 standard.
- I had one question related to the IZ units,
- 22 and I just wanted some additional information to
- 23 better understand if the eight units proposed
- reflected the 5,850 square feet, or if it was the
- 25 3,200 square feet at the 50 percent. So, if they

- 1 could just clarify if the eight units were the full
- 2 amount, that would be helpful. And while we do
- 3 appreciate the additional two-bedroom units, it
- 4 really would be great to see some three-bedroom units
- 5 in this location.
- OP had requested a street-level rendered view
- 7 from both the intersection of 1st and V and 2nd and
- 8 V, and I think we kind of got pieces of that, but not
- 9 exactly what we were looking for. The applicant
- 10 provided views to the water showing present day
- 11 conditions. I think we'd really like to see that
- same street-level view, kind of at the corner and
- mid-block showing, you know, the building rendered
- 14 and showing mature landscaping. I understand there
- will be kind of more significant changes with respect
- to the landscaping in the 2nd Street right of way.
- 17 1st Street may look, you know, a bit more like it
- does today, but it would be helpful to have that kind
- of future looking rendered view from those two corner
- 20 locations.
- 21 And then also with respect to the 1st and 2nd
- 22 Street right of ways, I think it would be helpful,
- 23 and this was discussed in some of the meetings, and
- it just hasn't kind of shown up yet on the plans, to
- 25 see if there are ways to really minimize the paved

- area, particularly those large round turn-arounds at
- the terminus of 1st and 2nd. I understand there are
- 3 circulation needs that need to be met, but it would
- 4 be nice to see if there are ways to incorporate
- 5 permeable paving. I know, I think there's kind of
- 6 interest and willingness on the District agencies'
- 7 parts to see even permeable paving for the parking
- 8 areas, the street parking areas on 1st and 2nd. So,
- 9 just ways to get more pervious surface into both the
- 10 design of the building and the design of the public
- 11 realm, given the sensitive waterfront location of
- 12 this project.
- Getting to the actual waterfront, we really
- do appreciate all the work that's been done on the
- 15 Riverwalk Trail, and I think that's really come quite
- 16 a long way. I do have concerns with respect to just
- 17 strict kind of compliance with the Riverwalk
- 18 guidelines. I think, while it's nice to have the
- 19 terrace seating called out as seating, and while that
- 20 will help activate the riverwalk, I think that's
- 21 really meant to serve the restaurant uses, and I
- 22 think we really need to better understand what's
- 23 proposed in terms of, you know, just informal benches
- or other seating opportunities in addition to the sun
- 25 deck. There are also, in the guidelines, there are

- 1 requirements for public art. I know kind of multiple
- locations were highlighted as possibilities. I think
- 3 we'd like a bit more certainty with respect to the
- 4 location of public art, and then what that might look
- 5 like, as well as a commitment from the applicant to
- 6 even possibly work with the District Arts Council to
- 7 get something in place there.
- 8 Other items that are requirements in the
- 9 riverwalk guidelines include educational signage. I
- 10 think there were examples provided that were helpful
- in this most recent submission. But, I'd encourage
- 12 the applicant to continue to work to refine that
- design and really come to a more, you know, resolved
- 14 position with respect to the riverwalk.
- 15 And those were actually the only outstanding
- issues that we had. So, that concludes my report.
- 17 I'm happy to answer any questions. I can certainly
- 18 speak a bit to the note. I think the applicant's
- 19 attorney, you know, provided a good summary. This is
- 20 a unique site. There are certainly things that are
- unresolved. The request for the building code
- 22 modification, you heard discussions about raising
- 23 streets, not raising streets. You know, does the
- 24 ground floor get raised to a higher elevation, and
- 25 then what happens either within the building or

- 1 within public space to accommodate, you know, retail
- visitors as well as building tenants.
- So, I think we just wanted to raise to the
- 4 Commission's awareness for tonight's hearing, that
- 5 there are certainly, you know, issues of reliance, as
- 6 well as regulatory issues that we felt could result,
- 7 depending on how things go, could result in design
- 8 changes to this project. So, we did just want to
- 9 bring that to your attention.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you. DDOT.
- 11 Mr. Rogers.
- MR. ROGERS: Good evening, Mr. Chair, members
- of the Commission. For the record, Jonathan Rogers
- 14 with the District Department of Transportation.
- This project has evolved extensively with all
- the coordination that has gone on between the
- 17 applicant and DDOT, as well as sister agencies.
- 18 There are many positive elements of the project,
- including the extension of the Anacostia Riverwalk
- 20 Trail, the cycle track up 2nd Street to V Street, the
- 21 V Street bus stop that's being included in the
- 22 adjacent public space, and the Capital Bikeshare
- 23 station.
- I did want to speak first to a couple of
- 25 questions that came up during Commissioner discussion

- 1 in questioning. I did want to note that the original
- 2 proposal did assume that the street grades were going
- 3 to be changing around the site. This is a very
- 4 involved question that you know, requires extensive
- 5 review by both federal and local agencies, and with
- 6 the timeline that the applicant was working on with
- 7 moving their project through this process, that was
- 8 one that certainly had a much shorter time frame and
- 9 time horizon than any final verdict on the question
- 10 about the street elevation.
- So, through those discussions the applicant
- 12 revised their design to assume the existing grades of
- 13 the streets. Should there be future changes to those
- 14 streets which would require extensive review and
- 15 approval by DDOT, among others, there may be changes
- to the building design, to the public space that
- would be required -- that would require additional
- 18 review and potentially approval through the Zoning
- 19 Commission process, through public space permitting,
- 20 and others. So, I did want to note that.
- 21 Regarding transit growth, there is no transit
- 22 that's currently serving the area. With all the
- 23 development that is coming, soccer stadium, other
- 24 private developments, we know that there's a need for
- 25 bus service to be extended down into this

- neighborhood and we've been coordinating, as well as
- the applicant has been coordinating with WMATA on
- 3 understanding time frames, what it takes to make that
- 4 happen.
- So, we've met several times with WMATA and
- 6 are well on track to make sure that that transit
- 7 comes along as the development delivers.
- 8 One of the things that we heard most from
- 9 WMATA was making sure that there are bus stops to
- 10 serve future bus routes, and so we've been working
- 11 very closely and the applicant has included, in their
- 12 public space plans, a bus stop on V Street. We're
- 13 also working with a soccer team and DGS to have
- 14 additional bus stops up and down 2nd Street which
- would serve a likely extension of the 74 line.
- DDOT has reviewed the applicant's response to
- 17 the DDOT agency report, and we're generally in
- 18 agreement with the following notes. Regarding the
- 19 showers that were requested as an important element
- 20 to encourage bicycling, the Buzzard Point area has
- 21 the potential to really have an excellent bicycle
- 22 culture, and bicycle mode split, because it's natural
- topography, it's flat, it's just far enough away from
- 24 the rail stations to really encourage bicycling. And
- it's going to have excellent in-street bicycle

- 1 infrastructure, as well as the Anacostia Riverwalk
- 2 Trail. So, the showers and changing facilities are
- an important supportive piece of infrastructure on
- 4 the building side that can really help take bicycling
- 5 to the next level. So, we encouraged that to happen.
- I should note that it doesn't -- that the
- 7 bicycling -- that the showers and changing facilities
- 8 don't necessarily need to be on that ground level and
- 9 take up retail space. We've certainly seen other
- 10 examples where they're on another level, the parking
- 11 garage, or another level.
- 12 Regarding the satellite parking, while the
- 13 parking provision for the retail does meet the
- zoning, there's going to be a practical need for more
- 15 retail parking, given the location of the site, the
- building program, and the availability of non-auto
- modes, at least at this moment.
- To the extent that satellite parking is
- 19 provided, it's important that pedestrian safe --
- 20 pedestrian connections be provided, to connect those
- 21 satellite parking locations to the site.
- 22 The applicant is targeting James Creek
- 23 Marina. There is not an agreement in place, and it's
- 24 also unclear how many spaces would be available and
- would that sever the full needs of the site in terms

- of satellite parking?
- So, DDOT reiterates the requested condition
- 3 that we included in our report that, as things unfold
- 4 and certainty comes to what parking spaces are
- s available in the future, that the applicant make sure
- 6 that there are safe pedestrian connections to those
- 7 satellite parking locations.
- 8 Given the evolving and dynamic nature of the
- 9 Buzzard Point area, and you know, a surface parking
- 10 lot today might not be there tomorrow, it would be
- 11 acceptable for those pedestrian connections, at least
- 12 the sidewalks to be made out of asphalt as a more
- 13 temporary improvement that does provide safe
- 14 connections without the full investments of a
- 15 standard concrete sidewalk.
- And one minor note about electric vehicle
- 17 charging stations, this was a recommendation in the
- 18 DDOT report to provide seven spaces in the parking
- 19 garage, and I do not believe that the applicant had
- 20 specifically responded to that, but as the District
- 21 tries to grow it's alternative energy and
- 22 transportation options, private side, electric
- vehicle charging stations is an important element.
- 24 So, that is the nature behind that request.
- 25 And with that, I will take any questions that

- 1 you have.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. Thank you, Mr.
- 3 Updike.
- MR. UPDIKE: Hi, yes. Thanks. Bill Updike.
- 5 I'm the Chief of the Green Building and Climate
- 6 Branch with the D.C. Department of Energy and
- 7 environment. This site is perhaps the most
- 8 vulnerable site in the District of Columbia, or at
- 9 least certainly one of the most vulnerable sites.
- 10 Our climate adaptation plan, called Climate Ready
- 11 D.C. has shown that we have seen 11 inches of sea
- 12 level rise since the 1920s. It's some of the highest
- in the world in this region. We've seen a 373
- 14 percent increase in nuisance flooding since just the
- 15 1950s.
- So, this site is very important, and it's
- 17 very important to get right. We received the
- 18 comments and the responses to our comments just late
- 19 last Friday as Chairman Hood mentioned. And
- 20 unfortunately, our key experts, and in particular on
- 21 the floodplain, our floodplain regulator
- 22 administrator, as well as his staff, are out of the
- office and have not been able to review the responses
- that the applicants have had, since we just got them
- 25 late on Friday.

- So, you know, unfortunately we haven't had a
- 2 chance to review, or at least the key experts haven't
- 3 had a chance to review. I will say that we are
- 4 working right now on a neighborhood wide analysis of
- 5 Buzzard Point, to try to figure out how to really
- 6 address issues of flooding, in particular, in that
- 7 whole neighborhood. And we're working with some of
- 8 the best experts in the world on the subject. The
- 9 applicant referenced the research, the cloud burst
- 10 study that we're doing. We have some preliminary
- analysis from that research, but we certainly would
- 12 like to see a little bit further to help advise us
- 13 how to address issues like this project.
- So, at this point, you know, you know, we'd
- 15 love to explore further, in particular on the flood
- issues. I know some of the questions that came out
- in the review there, were about flooding issues, and
- 18 I'm not the floodplain administrator for the city, so
- 19 I can't specifically address those questions. I do
- 20 have a colleague, Brian VanWy (phonetic) with me, who
- 21 has storm water expertise, so if there are questions
- on that subject area, Brian can come to the table and
- 23 answer those.
- 24 And I'm happy to answer any questions related
- to green building or climate if they come up as well.

- 1 Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. So, let me --
- 3 before I go to any questions, let me just ask this
- 4 question, because we want to make sure that when we
- 5 do ask questions that the answers have been reviewed
- 6 and flushed out.
- Now, I heard you, Ms. Vitale. I understand
- 8 that note, but that note was very significant for me.
- It was very important and I appreciate the note. And
- 10 as you mentioned in your testimony, there are some
- other things that I guess Office of Planning needs to
- 12 still work with the applicant on, the way I caught
- 13 it. The way I understand it.
- And let me go to Mr. Rogers. Is that the
- 15 same thing? Do you all still have some things that -
- 16 I mean, I'm trying to remember all what you said
- 17 because you said quite a bit. But you still have
- 18 some things you're looking for?
- MR. ROGERS: I would say on the DDOT issues,
- 20 we're relatively well wrapped up at this point. As I
- 21 noted, though, our review responds to the existing --
- 22 the current proposal of the applicant, which keeps
- 23 the grades of the streets as they are. If that were
- to change, that would open up another set of issues.
- 25 But because we're responding to the application as

- submitted, we are largely wrapped up at this point.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So, the changes
- 3 that came in on the 2nd, or whatever day that was,
- 4 didn't affect you all.
- MR. ROGERS: Just the few small notes that I
- 6 noted, being the pedestrian connections to the
- 7 satellite parking locations, the shower facilities,
- 8 and the electric vehicle charging stations.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And, Mr. Updike, I
- 10 think you were the loudest and the clearest, and that
- was one of my issues, the floodplain, because that's
- what I was kind of looking for.
- So, you all have not had an opportunity to
- 14 review.
- MR. UPDIKE: No, not the key experts that
- would need to review this document, no.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And how much time
- 18 would it take for them to be able to review it?
- MR. UPDIKE: I don't think it would take that
- 20 long to review it. I think responding to it and
- 21 potentially having a meeting with the applicants
- would be probably essential, given the complexity of
- 23 the issues down there in the project.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
- MR. UPDIKE: And I'm not sure, actually, when

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- our floodplain administrator is going to be back in
- 2 the office. I'd need to check on his schedule as
- 3 well.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I don't know how my other
- 5 colleagues feel, but I think that's very important
- 6 for us to kind of nail that down as much as we can.
- 7 So, what I would suggest -- and we can move forward,
- 8 Ms. Roddy. I'm not saying stop the hearing right
- 9 here. I wouldn't do that. We're going to continue
- 10 to move forward. Depending upon what comes back as
- 11 the results of the communications, whether or not the
- 12 Commission -- I would suggest that whether or not we
- decide to have a limited scope another night, and we
- 14 already have some because it shouldn't take us that
- 15 long once we see things. Or, we can just go with the
- 16 submissions. I don't know.
- Let's see how it goes. We can ask a few
- 18 questions but I think we've heard, at least from
- 19 DOEE, the concerns and then the experts. You know,
- 20 we do have certain experts in our government. So, we
- 21 want to make sure that they have a chance to weigh in
- 22 on some of the changes as well.
- So, that's kind of where I am, just moving
- 24 forward. If that's understood, if somebody has a
- 25 question for me, I'm willing to answer it.

- 1 Commissioner Shapiro.
- MR. SHAPIRO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yeah, I
- 3 agree with you and I would support that approach.
- The one question would be, because I'm
- 5 hearing a slightly different story from DOEE than I
- 6 am from OP, and I feel like the applicant -- you
- talked about how collaborative the agencies were with
- 8 you. And from my side, one of my concerns is, I'm
- 9 not quite sure where the communication is between the
- 10 agencies, because I'm hearing different things.
- So, I just want to make sure that that
- 12 conversation involves all of them and not just DOEE.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Okay. So, what I
- would definitely take that suggestion, Commissioner
- 15 Shapiro. I would agree also.
- And I'm saying this now, we can still ask our
- 17 questions, but let's be mindful of the comments we've
- 18 heard from the different agencies. Especially DOEE.
- 19 The experts are not here. Mr. Updike will answer
- what he can, but we don't want to put him in a realm
- of answering something that he's not the expert on.
- 22 He's probably expert in all of it, but since the
- 23 experts are not here I want us to make sure we guide
- our questions properly. And we may have another time
- 25 to guide them at the appropriate time.

- So, let's start off. Commissioner Shapiro.
- MR. SHAPIRO: Thank you. I just want to say
- there was a number of issues that were touched on by
- 4 the different agencies related to specific points
- 5 that, if we do move forward, if there is a limited
- 6 scope public hearing, these issues might not get
- 7 picked up again. But there were a number of points
- 8 the agency has touched on that sounded important to
- 9 me that I'd like to see the -- you know, essentially
- 10 with DDOT, the electronic charging stations.
- 11 This issue around the parking, I didn't quite
- understand. This is a question for DDOT. It's still
- not clear to me whether your sense is, this is in the
- 14 long run, whether this is under-parked, over-parked,
- or just right. Are we just going to have a surge up
- 16 front and then the recommendation is, there's
- 17 adequate parking?
- MR. ROGERS: So, I think one thing that
- 19 you'll definitely see in Buzzard Point neighborhood
- 20 is that there will be evolving trip making behavior
- over time. As this would, if it were to move forward
- on a quick course towards construction delivery,
- 23 probably be one of the first developments in the
- 24 area.
- The idea with providing some of the

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- 1 supportive transportation infrastructures that you
- 2 would grow that infrastructure over time,
- 3 particularly around transit. You're not going to
- 4 provide five minute headways of bus service when
- there is one building with 280 units or whatever it
- 6 is. But as the neighborhood develops you would start
- 7 to see more robust transit.
- And so, I think you can expect to see travel
- 9 behavior and mode choices change over time.
- 10 With that said, given the mix of uses and the
- 11 heavy program with retail and restaurants in
- 12 particular, and I'll let the applicant speak to their
- vision for that type of restaurant in particular, but
- it's our understanding that that is going to have a
- destination type component to it, and that there are
- 16 longer term, more permanent off-site parking
- 17 locations that are under consideration.
- And so, I think that in our estimation there
- will be some component of off-site retail parking for
- 20 the long haul, and that might evolve over time as
- 21 parking locations come in and out of the inventory
- 22 and trip making behavior changes to respond to the
- 23 availability of transportation alternatives.
- MR. SHAPIRO: And I don't remember seeing
- 25 this in there. Have they designed in a valet parking

- 1 station or stations for the restaurants? I mean, I
- 2 assume for the first months you would certainly want
- 3 that to be a major factor.
- 4 MR. ROGERS: It's been something that's been
- 5 communicated to us. Valet staging areas are part of
- 6 the public space permitting process as part of the
- 7 general curbside management strategy. So, I believe
- 8 some of the -- or, I know, some of the decisions that
- 9 have been made on the public space side, at least in
- 10 these preliminary plans that are shown in the design
- 11 review package, consider how there would be pick-up,
- 12 drop-off valet activity and utilizing those
- 13 turnarounds at the ends of 1st and 2nd Street to help
- 14 facilitate that.
- MR. SHAPIRO: Thank you. I'll stop there,
- 16 Mr. Chair.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Any other questions of
- 18 either one of the three agencies? Vice Chair Miller?
- MR. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just
- 20 had a question for Ms. Steingasser or Mr. Lawson. Or
- 21 Ms. Vitale of Office of Planning regarding
- 22 Inclusionary Zoning. I saw a reference somewhere
- 23 that the rehab of office buildings are generally
- 24 exempt from the Inclusionary Zoning. We didn't
- 25 change that in our recent IZ case? And if we didn't,

- 1 I think we should consider, if some of my colleagues
- 2 agree, I think we should consider not exempting the
- 3 rehab of office buildings, particularly since I think
- 4 that's a trend that is happening, due to the market
- 5 conditions. And it's just a lost opportunity to --
- 6 they're providing it anyway here in this case, I
- 7 mean, they're meeting it as if it did apply. So, I
- 8 think that we should -- are you looking at that
- 9 issue? Did we not look at that issue when we
- 10 revamped our IZ recently?
- MS. VITALE: We did not, but we are happy to
- 12 bring that back to you.
- MR. MILLER: Okay, I'd appreciate -- if my
- 14 colleagues are supportive of that, I would encourage
- 15 that strongly.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Any other questions or
- 17 comments up here? Commissioner Shapiro had another
- one.
- MR. SHAPIRO: Thank you. I just had one more
- 20 quick question, again for DOEE.
- This issue which has come before us a few
- 22 times, and I'd love to hear your comment on this, Mr.
- 23 Updike, when there's a conflict between the green
- 24 area ratio and solar panels and you know, what's the
- 25 priority for the use of the roof? How do you respond

- 1 to that?
- MR. UPDIKE: Yeah, I mean, there actually is,
- 3 with the green area ratio in particular, there is a
- 4 multiplier for solar. So, you know, theoretically
- 5 there shouldn't be a conflict with the green area
- 6 ratio.
- When it comes to the storm water regulations,
- 8 you know, that's a different question. But there's
- 9 certainly ways to do both. There are project teams
- 10 that are doing integrated solar and green roof
- 11 projects, and there's discussions at the agency about
- 12 how you would count the retention volume that would
- 13 be underneath the solar panel and how it would need
- 14 to be designed to count that retention area. So,
- there's certainly the ability to do both. There's
- 16 also the ability to do rainwater collection and reuse
- with solar, as opposed to green roof, you know, and
- 18 solar.
- So, there are multiple opportunities. There
- 20 are multiple ways to address these issues, and you
- 21 know, many folks may not know, but D.C. has probably
- 22 the best financials for solar in the country right
- 23 now. They're sort of remarkable and sometimes
- unbelievable, but it's true. And so, it's really an
- 25 opportunity that we need to make happen. In

- 1 particular because our law requires five percent of
- 2 our electricity to come from local solar. And if we
- 3 don't meet those requirements it's going to cost all
- 4 rate payers an incredible amount of money. Hundreds
- of millions of dollars. So, it's crucial that, you
- 6 know, every building at least do their best to try to
- 7 figure out how to include solar projects.
- 8 MR. SHAPIRO: Thank you very much. And I
- 9 would just encourage you to take that direction
- 10 advice and find a way to make it happen. There's
- 11 just so many incentives that D.C. is looking to
- 12 provide. It's hard to imagine that you can't find a
- 13 creative way to incorporate it.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Any other comments or
- 15 questions up here?
- Okay, let's -- and we're probably going to
- 17 come back and revisit this as information that we've
- just been provided from, especially DOEE, because we
- may have some questions. We just need to figure out
- 20 how we're going to do this. And I can tell you right
- 21 now, I think we're looking at the date. That's what
- 12 I was over there talking to Ms. Schellin. We're
- looking at the date of, what is it, July --
- MS. SCHELLIN: [Speaking off microphone.]
- 25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I was trying to find a

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- 1 sooner date, but believe it or not, you guys, we're
- 2 kind of booked. So, we'll see. We'll talk about
- 3 that as we go down. Let's continue the hearing.
- Let's go to the -- and let me ask this. Any
- 5 cross from the applicant?
- 6 MS. RODDY: No.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Either one of the
- 8 agencies. Does the ANC have any cross?
- Okay. All right. So, Mr. Moffett, if you
- 10 can come forward and give the ANC report?
- MR. MOFFETT: Good evening, Chairman Hood and
- 12 distinguished members of the Zoning Commission of the
- 13 District of Columbia, and good evening to the fellow
- 14 citizens of the District of Columbia. My name is
- 15 Roger Moffett and I service commissioner for a single
- member district SMD 6D-05, where this project is
- 17 situated.
- 18 I'm here tonight to speak on behalf of ANC
- 19 6D. As stated in its report, ANC 6D voted 600 to
- 20 offer support with concerns and suggestions relating
- 21 to the Capitol Gateway Overlay, District Design
- 22 Review and variance relief sought by the applicant,
- 23 application noted above.
- Our reasons for that support are outlined in
- 25 our report. However, we also believe that the

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- 1 applicant's positive actions deserve our presence
- 2 here to emphasize their demonstration of a commitment
- 3 to Buzzard Point, and to working with a surrounding
- 4 community.
- Affordable housing, the applicant originally
- 6 proposed paying into the Housing Affordable Trust
- 7 Fund in lieu of providing affordable units in the
- 8 project. However, the applicant has agreed to
- 9 provide the affordable units on site. We are
- 10 heartened to see the developers, who are willing to
- work to make their ANC 6D developments available to
- 12 the entire economic spectrum. We, at ANC 6D, want to
- be here to emphasize the deserved plaudits.
- Pet relief area, a laughing matter to some
- and -- but it isn't whenever you think about the
- 16 Anacostia. The developers have identified two
- 17 locations to address this issue. One inside the
- 18 building at the garage level, and one exterior to the
- building on 1st Street, designed to ensure pet waste
- 20 does not enter the Anacostia. In addition to the
- 21 applicant -- in addition, the applicant has committed
- to continue to work with other Buzzard Point
- 23 developers with the goal of developing a coordinated
- 24 and comprehensive response to this issue as
- 25 development continues in the neighborhood. Again,

- 1 the applicant had demonstrated concern relating to
- 2 potential problems for this area.
- Relative to retail space use, the retail
- 4 space along V Street are ideal for neighborhood
- 5 serving retail spaces and the applicant is actively
- 6 pursuing a number of neighborhood serving retailers,
- 7 such as food market, coffee shop, and a pharmacy.
- 8 The developers recognize that in order to
- make this building attractive to potential tenants,
- 10 they need to be sure that they have convenient access
- 11 to day to day goods and services. On behalf of ANC
- 12 6D, thank you for your time and for allowing me to
- 13 present this testimony this evening.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Commissioner
- 15 Moffett. We appreciate you taking the time and
- 16 coming down here and presenting your testimony and
- 17 the ANC's position.
- Let's open it up. Any questions or comments
- 19 to Commissioner Moffett?
- Okay. Does the applicant have any cross?
- Okay. All right. Thank you, very much. We
- 22 appreciate you coming down.
- MR. MOFFETT: Thank you.
- CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Let's go to persons
- 25 and -- organizations and persons in opposition. Is

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- there anyone here, organization or person who would
- 2 like to testify? I mean, what did I say?
- 3 Opposition? In support. You can come forward.
- 4 Anyone who is here, organization or person who is in
- support, if you can come forward. Anybody else?
- 6 Okay.
- okay, you may begin.
- MS. TADDEI: Thank you, Commissioner Hood and
- good evening, commissioners. As you know, my name is
- 10 Kristin Taddei and I am the planning advocate with
- 11 Casey Trees. And as you also know, Casey Trees is a
- Washington, D.C. based non-profit, with a mission to
- 13 restore, enhance, and protect the tree canopy of the
- 14 nation's capital.
- To fulfill this mission, we plant trees,
- monitor the city's tree canopy, and work with
- 17 decisionmakers, developers, and residents to
- 18 encourage tree planting and protection on both public
- 19 and private property.
- We are dedicated to helping the District
- reach its 40 percent tree canopy goal by 2032. As a
- 22 city, we will achieve this goal. When developments
- include landscape designs that allow trees to grow
- 24 large and live long healthy lives.
- We are excited to work with the development

- 1 team to ensure that trees are prioritized in the
- 2 river front development at 2100 2nd Street Southwest.
- 3 By prioritizing trees in the landscaping plan, the
- 4 development team has the opportunity to mitigate
- 5 flooding, improve the ecological health of the
- 6 Anacostia River, and create an attractive destination
- 7 for residents and visitors alike.
- Though there are trees on this property
- 9 today, many of them are in poor condition, as you saw
- 10 earlier. Especially those growing along the
- 11 riverbank and the eastern side of the proposed
- 12 building. And you can see that in figure one.
- We appreciate that the development team will
- 14 replace these neglected trees with carefully selected
- urban hearty trees that will be well cared for.
- 16 These trees will ultimately improve the river
- 17 ecosystem and provide shade to passersby.
- To continue working toward the city's
- sustainable D.C. goal of achieving a 40 percent tree
- 20 canopy by 2032, and the climate ready D.C. actions to
- reduce flooding and the urban heat island effect, we
- 22 recommend the following.
- We believe there is an opportunity to plant
- 24 small trees in the planting strips, which we believe
- 25 are four-feet wide, along the eastern edge of the

- 1 building. We suggest ensuring that there is at least
- three feet of soil depth in these planting strips,
- 3 and spacing six small trees at least 10 feet apart.
- 4 You can see this recommendation in Figure 2.
- Second, we are pleased that the developer
- 6 plans to increase tree diversity by alternating tree
- 7 species along the property. We also appreciate the
- 8 concentration of trees near the riverbank, as these
- 9 trees will promote storm water retention and
- 10 infiltration.
- We request that the development team refer to
- 12 Casey Trees Urban Tree Selection Guide. I have a few
- 13 copies with me tonight, but it is also available on
- our website, and that they cross-reference this guide
- 15 with the Federal Aviation Administration's list of
- trees in order to select tree species that will
- 17 comply with the FAA's wildlife standards and perform
- 18 well in this urban site.
- 19 Thank you for the opportunity to testify. We
- 20 would be happy to work directly with the development
- team, and I'm also happy to answer any questions.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you very much. Have
- 23 you reached out previously to the development team?
- MS. TADDEI: Yes. Actually, ORR Partners
- 25 gave us a site visit and explained some of the

- 1 constraints and the situation.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So, this is not their
- 3 first time, other than saying it in the record, this
- 4 is not their first time hearing from you on some
- 5 of --
- 6 MS. TADDEI: That's correct.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. All right. Any
- 8 questions, comments? Does the applicant have any
- 9 cross?
- MS. RODDY: No.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. We appreciate Casey
- 12 Trees stepping up on all our cases. We appreciate
- 13 that. Thank you.
- MS. TADDEI: Happy to.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Do we have any
- organizations and persons who are here in opposition?
- 17 In opposition. Not seeing anyone.
- Ms. Roddy, do some rebuttal and closing?
- MS. RODDY: Thank you. I just wanted to
- 20 address some of the comments that we heard from the
- 21 agencies. I'll start with DDOT. I think that that
- one is fairly simple. I'm sure that we can find a
- 23 place to provide the shower facilities that they are
- 24 requesting, and we will provide those. Similarly, we
- 25 can commit to providing the sidewalks to the off-site

- 1 parking areas that they have requested, as well as
- the charging stations. So, I believe that that takes
- 3 care of all of the open-ended DDOT issues.
- With respect to the Office of Planning, it's
- 5 the eight units is the entirety of the affordable
- 6 commitment. We will continue to work with DDOT with
- 7 respect to the design of the terminus, and we will
- 8 finalize that during the public space process as we
- 9 coordinate with the agencies.
- We will need to study the commitment to
- 11 certify the building at the -- certify it. It will
- obviously be designed to LEED Gold, but the
- 13 certification process, we'll study, and we can
- 14 provide you the additional details with respect to
- 15 the seating areas. We can get you that information
- 16 fairly easily.
- Now, moving on to the DOEE issues --
- MR. SHAPIRO: Public art?
- MS. RODDY: Right. I'm sorry. That would be
- 20 included with the seating area. So, that analysis
- 21 will include the educational opportunities, the
- 22 public art, and the seating program within the
- 23 waterfront area.
- MR. ORR: I'm married to an artist. It's
- 25 going to happen.

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- MS. RODDY: And so, with respect to the DOEE
- 2 I understand like that is a first and foremost
- 3 concern for the Commission, and this project, not
- 4 unlike the other projects in Buzzard Point that have
- 5 come before the Commission requires a code
- 6 modification.
- And we have been working closely with a code
- 8 consultant and developing the flood protections that
- we put together, and we are confident that we will
- 10 receive the code modification. We base this on the
- 11 fact that more than 10 percent, as Julia noted, 12.75
- 12 percent of the building is dedicated to commercial
- use. And that, in connection with the fact that all
- of the residential units are removed from the 500-
- 15 year floodplain by at least 21 feet. We think those
- two items, we are confident in receiving that code
- 17 modification.
- 18 That modification is sought during the
- 19 permitting stage. And so, we obviously, in order to
- 20 go get to the permitting stage as I noted, we have to
- 21 come through this design review stage. And we think
- 22 that the design that we're putting together tonight
- 23 and presenting to you this evening, is the
- 24 appropriate design. It balances the objectives of
- 25 the Buzzard Point Framework Plan, which is to provide

- 1 these active ground-floor spaces to provide ground-
- 2 floor retail, while also addressing DOEE concerns by
- 3 removing residential units from the 500-year
- 4 floodplain.
- 5 The alternative, which DOEE suggested in
- 6 their report, which was to remove the building from
- 7 the 500-year floodplain, creates a number of
- 8 challenges. As Yulia noted, it would require a four-
- g foot perimeter wall, a knee wall. Or, in my case, a
- 10 shoulder wall. And that would go around the
- 11 perimeter of the building, which would kill the
- 12 retail.
- And if that didn't kill the retail, then the
- 14 parking that we would have to elevate to that level,
- 15 would kill the retail. It would eliminate retail all
- 16 together because we would have parking on the ground
- 17 floor at that point.
- I don't think that the Commission, I don't
- 19 think OP would want us to come forward with that
- 20 building. So, we think that the design that we've
- 21 proposed tonight balances the concerns of the
- 22 agencies, and we are going to continue to work with
- 23 DOEE in creating that flood egress plan, as well as
- 24 finalizing the dry proofing and flood proofing of the
- 25 building during the permitting stage. And if we

- 1 don't get the modification, there are going to have
- to be changes to the design, which would put us back
- 3 before the Commission.
- But as I noted, we are very confident, based
- on our conversations with our co-consultant, who is
- 6 also working in connection with the other Buzzard
- 7 Point projects that have come before the Commission
- 8 that we will receive that code modification during
- 9 the permitting process.
- So, we appreciate your time tonight. We
- understand your concerns. We have thoroughly
- analyzed this and we believe that this is the
- 13 appropriate plan to move forward with.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you.
- 15 Commissioners, any final comments? Anybody?
- MR. MAY: You know, I think, I just want to
- 17 say, the thing that remains troubling and hopefully
- 18 will get more clarity when we hear more from DOEE is
- 19 just that the -- is that the note on the OP report,
- 20 and then the statement in DOEE's report that they
- 21 recommend that we not approve it until this is
- resolved, until this is fixed to their satisfaction.
- So, hopefully with a little bit more
- 24 information from DOEE we'll get to the point where
- we're comfortable with whatever is being proposed at

- 1 that point.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Any other comments?
- MR. TURNBULL: Mr. Chair, I just had -- Ms.
- 4 Roddy, going back to OP, Ms. Vitale had a -- I think
- 5 she wanted you to also maybe revisit and think about
- 6 the three-bedroom units if that's an option. And I
- 7 think she wanted some views on 1st Street and V, and
- 8 1st and 2nd. I think she had a couple of -- she'd
- 9 like to see some more renderings down that view. I
- 10 think we all would.
- 11 And then she talked about the river walk
- 12 guidelines, benches, and not just for the
- 13 restaurants. She mentioned the public art. And I
- 14 forget, but she had a list of about eight, eight to
- 15 10 things, I think.
- MS. RODDY: Right. And so, we will -- I'll
- 17 be honest, it's going to be challenging to provide
- 18 the three-bedroom units here. We will certainly
- 19 study it, but we have increased the number of two-
- 20 bedroom units.
- MR. TURNBULL: Two-bedrooms.
- MS. RODDY: We will provide the renderings
- 23 that have been requested. As I mentioned, we will
- 24 provide the seating analysis which would be included
- with the art place and the educational opportunities

- 1 as well, and there was one more that you mentioned.
- MR. SHAPIRO: Permeable pavers at the turn-
- 3 around.
- 4 MR. TURNBULL: Permeable pavers, right.
- 5 MS. RODDY: Right. And that --
- 6 MR. ORR: The renderings.
- MS. RODDY: The renderings. We'll provide
- 8 the renderings. The permeable paving, I had
- 9 mentioned that we would work with DDOT. Those are in
- 10 public space so we would work with DDOT to refine
- 11 that during the public space process.
- MR. TURNBULL: Okay. All right. Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Any other questions
- or comments up here? Okay. I think with everything
- we've heard, I did go over earlier and try to find a
- 16 date sooner. Every time we do that I mess up and we
- 17 wind up having problems with the other hearings. But
- 18 the date that we have open, which I thought was going
- to be open, which we would have liked, is July the
- 20 13th, correct?
- 21 And by that time, I'm sure that whoever is
- 22 coming back from DOEE, the experts should be there
- working out with the Office of Planning, maybe the
- 24 agencies and the applicant, we can get everything
- together and we're going to come down here on the

- 1 13th. Does that work for everyone because that's
- 2 actually open? That was a day off for us, but guys,
- 3 it's not a day off anymore. All right.
- Yes, Ms. Roddy.
- MS. RODDY: Can I clarify? Is this limited
- 6 to the floodplain issue? Is it a limited scope
- 7 hearing?
- 8 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: It's going to be limited
- 9 scope to everything that's outstanding. I still
- 10 heard some -- I calculated four things from Office of
- 11 Planning, but I was told it was seven or eight.
- MS. RODDY: Yes, understood. The outstanding
- 13 items from OP as well.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: The outstanding. Yeah,
- it's going to be a limited scope to those things.
- 16 And basically, it's going to be for us, if we have
- 17 any comments. You all may have satisfied the
- 18 agencies, and we read it and we'll be fine. So, I
- was wondering if we could just do submissions, but I
- 20 think we may have some questions. So, that's why I'm
- 21 going in that format. Okay?
- MS. SCHELLIN: And just to clarify, it's not
- open for any public testimony, so just --
- 24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah. I think --
- MS. SCHELLIN: -- limit it.

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- 1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I don't know.
- MS. SCHELLIN: So, it's just continuing to --
- 3 because we closed that part of the hearing, or except
- 4 for the ANC to ask questions if there's any cross
- 5 on --
- 6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I don't know if we should
- 7 do that because there's some new information that
- 8 possibly may come up. And every time we do something
- 9 like that, we get -- well, I get in trouble. So, I
- 10 don't know. What do you guys think? I'm asking my
- 11 colleagues this time. Mr. Shapiro?
- MR. SHAPIRO: I mean, I'll follow your lead,
- 13 Mr. Chair. My view on it is that it can be limited
- in scope and that we've closed the public portion of
- the hearing and I'd be satisfied with that.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So, no public
- 17 testimony, because we've done that tonight. Okay.
- Does everybody agree with that? Okay. I got
- 19 everybody agreeing with that. Okay. All right. So,
- 20 that's what it will be. It won't be no public
- testimony, we will limit the scope to what the
- outstanding issues are with Office of Planning, and
- even DDOT. All the agencies, we'll just keep all the
- 24 agencies out there so we won't narrow that scope.
- Okay. Any questions from anyone? All right.

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- 1 So, we will reconvene this meeting on the 15th, and
- 2 hopefully -- 13th. That's a Saturday, the 15th.
- MS. SCHELLIN: The 13th. And actually, we
- 4 won't do a new public hearing notice for the limited
- scope.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: It's no need.
- 7 MS. SCHELLIN: We're just basically
- 8 continuing this hearing --
- 9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Right.
- MS. SCHELLIN: -- just for that purpose.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Right. Just for that
- 12 purpose.
- MS. SCHELLIN: So, right.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Okay.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: So, with that, we will
- continue this on the 13th at 6:30.
- MS. SCHELLIN: Okay, thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. And with that,
- 20 I thank everyone for their participation and this is
- 21 -- will be continued on the 13th, July 13th.
- 22 [Whereupon, the hearing adjourned at 8:41]
- 23 p.m.]