

## MID CITY ELEMENT CHAPTER 20

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From: Samantha Lee <[srl50@georgetown.edu](mailto:srl50@georgetown.edu)>  
Date: Fri, Dec 13, 2019, 3:13 PM  
Subject: Re: Community engagement about the Comp Plan  
To: Boese, Kent C. (ANC 1A08) <[1A08@anc.dc.gov](mailto:1A08@anc.dc.gov)>  
Cc: Wray, Michael (SMD 1A09) <[1A09@anc.dc.gov](mailto:1A09@anc.dc.gov)>

Unfortunately, I was not available to attend the meeting. Thanks for sharing it with me.

### **I would like to offer a few pieces of feedback on the proposed amendments for Mid-City (identified by tracking number):**

**2737:** I do not understand how we are supposed to provide feedback on items that are not available for public view. For example, this proposed amendment addresses open space at McMillan, which I care deeply about. However, I cannot find anything more about this proposal than "MC 2.6.1 OPEN SPACE AT MCMILLAN SITE." Similarly, a large number of proposals for Mid-City say "See Attachment," and attachments have not been made public. The park, one of the last large undeveloped spaces in the District should be preserved as a green space. The tunnels should be reused creatively and preserved given their amazing history. If development is going to happen, at least half of the 25 acres should remain public green space, and new construction should be housing that is affordable to low-income and extremely low-income people to combat the affordable housing crisis. This could be DC's central park! It could be a place truly designed for residents, whereas the National Mall is a place for visitors.

**2159:** Various proposed amendments are not included in OP's draft for public review, so there is no justification available for why they are unavailable. This is an example, which touches on the important topics of adapting public facilities.

**0035:** Support, thank you!

**0039:** Support, thank you!

**0044:** Support, thank you!

**0054:** Deeply, deeply, deeply support!! As a farmer at the community garden at AFRH and one of the few people with an access pass to the grounds during this year's pilot project, I think this space is an invaluable asset that has been mostly lost to the community for decades. Given the plan to redevelop the eastern section of AFRH and the likely loss of green space at MacMillan, I want to strongly advocate for access to the western section as well, particularly through the former public entryways at Park Rd & Park Place and/or Rock Creek Church & Randolph St. It has been a huge headache to have access restricted to the Upshur St gate, in addition to dealing with the nightmarish bureaucracy over the community garden. Also, the western section will be critical to ensure connectivity between Park View and the public space in the redevelopment.

**0070:** Support!

**0077/0078:** Support, with explicit prioritization of the interests and priorities of existing public housing residents awaiting replacement units, existing D.C. residents (particularly Black/people of color/native Washingtonian households) at risk of displacement, and other potential low-income and extremely low-income residents waiting for affordable places to live in the city.

**1146:** Support, with acknowledgment of the need for supportive financial programs for low-income homeowners.

**1700:** Support! This could be applied to Park View and other Mid-City neighborhoods as well.

**2825:** Support!

If you haven't already, please officially endorse and adopt the principles of the Grassroots Planning Coalition as you finalize your recommendations:

<http://www.>

In addition, I wonder why we continue to use area elements that do not align with any other local designations. Wouldn't it be more accessible to DC residents if we did planning based on neighborhoods, ANC units, and/or Wards?

Lastly, I want to reiterate that OP and the City Council need to make sure our civic and citizen organizations, ANCs, and neighborhood stewards have the time to read, understand, share, discuss, and provide ample feedback on the changes to the Comp Plan, which affect all of our lives and the future of our city. Please consider the draft resolution attached and advocating for the City Council/OP/the Mayor extend the time period from 65 days to closer to 180 days (end of April) for public review and comment. OP needs to also translate all materials and amendments associated with their changes to the Plan so that all residents may participate in what should be a much more transparent and engaging civic process.

Thank you,  
Mandy Lee  
439 Park Rd NW  
Love & Solidarity Collective  
NAACP DC Branch  
DC Grassroots Planning Coalition