

Tracey Rose
FOIA Officer
Office of Zoning
One Judiciary Square
441 4th Street NW, Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001
tracey.rose@dc.gov
Phone: (202) 727-6311

Date: November 19, 2025

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request per DC Open Government Act

Dear Ms. Rose:

This is a request under the DC Freedom of Information Act.

We request to pick up or receive a copy of any and all documents produced as either:

- a facsimile,
- electronic email,
- PDF, Word, or any other such electronic document,
- and/or hard-copy paper documents, post mail or otherwise,
- as well as any electronic communications and messages sent by text SMS, Signal, WhatsApp, or any other online, electronic, or phone communications.

FOIA search terms include any permutation of the following:

- “Zoning Case 23-02” “23-02” “1617 U Street, NW” “1620 U Street, NW” etc., or otherwise anything to do with the proposed Zone Map Amendment in Case 23-02 found in ANC 1B, Ward One, Washington, DC.

Responsive documents shall be such documents found using the criteria above within the records of District of Columbia Office of Zoning and DC Zoning Commission, and agency representatives, especially:

- Chairman Anthony Hood,
- Vice Chairman Robert Miller,
- Executive Director Sara Bardin,
- Secretary Sharon Schellin, and,
- Advisor Jacob Ritting.

We are asking responsive Documents include any found within the dates of September 13, 2024, until today, November 19, 2025.

Background:

The DC Zoning Commission took final action on ZC Case No. 23-02 on September 12, 2024 (<https://play.champds.com/dczoning/event/1084/s/1010>). That's almost thirteen months ago.

The future of 1617 U Street, NW, is of serious public interest and impacts existing first-responder services for many, many residents in the area. The outcomes at this site, including by way of zoning will have a permanent and lasting impact affecting the quality of life and emergency response times for the entire U Street corridor and Wards 1 & 2 neighborhoods. Impacted residents, included those filing this FOIA, are confounded that more than a year later a Zoning Order has not yet been published for public review. We seek communications around this case to better understand the substantial delay in this matter.

We are writing this FOIA on behalf of **Save DC Public Land: The 1617 Project**, an unincorporated non-profit citizens association. We are seeking the above public information in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the activities and information about this near 2-acres of public land (with a police station and fire station), a valuable public asset.

We are willing to pay fees for this request up to a maximum of \$51.00. If you estimate that the fees will exceed this limit, please inform us first.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Debby Hanrahan, Save DC Public Land

with co-signers (parties to Zoning Case 23-02):

- Arlene Feskanich, Homeowners Within 200 feet of Lots 827 and 827
- Gregory Adams, Black Neighbors of 1617 U Street

You may contact us collectively at:

the1617uproject@savedcpublicland.org