

# Government of the District of Columbia

## ZONING COMMISSION



ZONING COMMISSION ORDER NO. 783

Case No. 93-3C

(Consolidated PUD & Map Amendment @ 200 K Street, N.W.)

September 11, 1995

Pursuant to notice, a public hearing was held by the Zoning Commission for the District of Columbia on March 9, 1995. At that session, the Zoning Commission considered an application from the 200 K Street Limited Partnership (Applicant). The Applicant requested consolidated review and approval of a planned unit development (PUD) and related amendment to the Zoning Map of the District of Columbia, pursuant to Chapter 24 and Section 102, respectively, of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR), Title 11, Zoning. The public hearing was conducted pursuant to the provisions of 11 DCMR 3022.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The application, filed on January 29, 1995, requested consolidated review and approval of a mixed-use, office/residential PUD and map amendment from C-M-1 and M to C-3-C in Square 749 (Lots 1 and 2) located at 200 K Street, N.E.
2. The applicant proposes the construction of a high-rise, mixed-use office and residential project. The PUD site is divided into Lot 1 for the residential building and Lot 2 for the office building. There will be a 30,000 square foot landscaped plaza, and underground parking to accommodate 428 cars.
3. The PUD site comprises all of Square 749, except lots 31, 804 and 805, and the public alley at the rear of those lots. The PUD site measures 101,102 square feet (29,413 for Lot 1 and 71,689 for Lot 2), and is bounded by 2nd, 3rd, K and L Streets, N.E.
4. The proposed 15-story residential building would be located at the east side of the square, front on 3rd Street, and have a three-tier height of 36.5 feet, 87.5 feet, and 130 feet from K Street to L Street would have a gross floor area of 196,758 square feet, a lot occupancy of 60 percent, and an FAR of 6.7.
5. The proposed 12-story office building would be located at the west side of the square, front on 2nd Street, and have a

height of 130 feet. This building will have a gross floor area of 615,546 square feet, a lot occupancy of 75 percent, and an FAR of 8.6.

6. On December 12, 1994, the Zoning Commission for the District of Columbia authorized a public hearing for Case No. 93-3C.
7. The C-M-1 District permits development of low bulk commercial and light manufacturing uses to a maximum floor area ratio (FAR) of 3.0, and a height limit of three stories/40 feet, with new residential uses prohibited.
8. The M District permits industrial uses to a maximum FAR of 6.0 and a maximum height of 90 feet with new residential uses prohibited.
9. The C-3-C District permits matter of right major business and employment centers of medium/high density development, including office, retail, housing, and mixed-uses to a maximum height of 90 feet, a maximum FAR of 6.5 for residential and other permitted uses, and a maximum lot occupancy of 100 percent.
10. Under the PUD process of the Zoning Regulations, the Zoning Commission has the authority to consider this application as a first-stage PUD. The Commission may also impose development conditions, guidelines, and standards which may exceed or be less than the matter of right standards identified above for height, FAR, lot occupancy, parking, and loading, or for yards and courts. The Zoning Commission may also approve uses that are permitted as a special exception and would otherwise require approval by the Board of Zoning Adjustment.
11. The District of Columbia Generalized Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capitol designates the subject site for mixed-use medium/high density commercial and production/technical employment uses.
12. The applicant through testimony presented at the public hearing, indicated that the site is a good location for a mixed-use project and a 30,000 square foot plaza which will provide benefits to the city and the neighborhood as well. Currently, the project is a hodgepodge of vacant boarded-up buildings, and a few industrially-occupied buildings. He indicated that it yields few jobs and only a handful of homes are located on the site. Very little in taxes is generated by the site. He believes, when built, the project will provide several hundred jobs; approximately 200 residences and close to \$1 million per year in taxes, including property taxes, retail sales taxes and income taxes of residents.

13. The applicant's architect stated that the residential building has been designated with a series of setbacks, cornice lines, changes in material and different types of articulation, to scale down the building as it comes forward to the street. At street face, the residential building is designated at a 40-foot height limit so that it relates to the buildings across the street. It then steps back six feet at the 40-foot level and goes up to a 90-foot height limit, where it then sets back a full bay to a tower that rises to the maximum height of 130 feet.
14. The architect indicated the office building, similarly, has been developed with the traditional base, center and top articulation, stepping back as the building rises up with a series of heavy cornice lines and changes in material. The office building is envisioned to be pre-cast with larger window panels and larger bays so that it works and looks as an office building. There are recesses in the center of the building where the articulation would change so that it has the appearance of two buildings, rather than one large building.
15. The Plaza acts as a buffer between the two proposed buildings and serves as a transition to the residential zoning across 3rd Street, N.W. It is designed to be full-service, with electrical, water, lighting and landscaping.
16. The applicant indicated the project will provide a number of amenities including:
  - a. Approximately 230 new housing units;
  - b. 60,000 square feet of commercial, production and technical employment, training, child development, day care, foster care and other community-oriented uses.
  - c. The potential for a large supermarket, and space within the above-mentioned 60,000 square feet of floor area has been designed for such use.
  - d. A 30,000 square-foot, full-service, plaza for tenant and community use;
  - e. The direct full-time equivalent of 720 construction jobs with a direct payroll of approximately \$23.2 million during construction of the project;
  - f. Approximately 2,326 direct on-site employment opportunities with a direct payroll in excess of \$46 million

annually as a direct result of the long-term operation of the project;

- g. Approximately \$9.5 million in taxes per year (real property, personal property, franchise, parking, sales and individual income tax revenue);
- h. A proposed innovative neighborhood conservation tax increment district mechanism whereby the additional incremental taxes generated by the project can be utilized to "freeze" property taxes of existing residents living in the surrounding community for a period of up to ten years;
- i. Significant opportunities for area residents to establish and operate a locally-based minority business for building maintenance and cleaning services. An estimated 14 jobs and a \$280,000 payroll will be directly created in this operation;

Additionally, community benefits will be generated by on-site, community-related facilities which could include foster care facilities, day care facilities, a community events area, police substation, City School Self Esteem Program, minority business enterprise franchise demonstration program, business enterprise and business development training, and other community-serving retail, educational, and service opportunity;

- j. Significant construction period job opportunities for local area residents and other minorities during the construction period.
- 17. The applicant's traffic expert concluded in a formal traffic report and through testimony at the public hearing that the proposed PUD will not adversely impact the surrounding street network. He also noted that the parking spaces provided on the site were adequate to serve the project.
  - 18. The traffic expert stated that the proposed parking and loading provided in the project is adequate. The project provides parking in an underground garage which is entered from 2nd Street, N.E. for office users and L Street, N.E. for residential tenants. Loading will occur on 2nd Street, N.E.
  - 19. He also stated that the applicant proposes to provide approximately 428 parking spaces to ensure that parking needs for tenants of both buildings are met.

20. The applicant's economic analysis expert concluded in a formal study that the project will have a total direct and indirect impact of approximately \$115 million in revenues to the city annually.
21. The District of Columbia Office of Planning (OP) by report dated February 24, 1995 and by testimony presented at the public hearing indicated it is not opposed to the proposal. "However, since it is somewhat inconsistent with OP's preliminary zoning recommendations for the general area, certain height and massing issues need to be resolved before the project can be recommended for approval."
22. The Department of Public Works (DPW) by report dated March 17, 1995 stated "In conclusion, the PUD requires further coordination with DPW regarding the development and implementation of a Transportation Management Program to mitigate traffic and parking impacts on the neighborhood residential area, to assess the water and sewer capabilities to service the proposed development, and a traffic operational improvements program pertaining to traffic signal installation resulting from this proposal."
23. Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A, by report dated April 6, 1995 and by testimony presented at the public hearing voted to support the approval of the PUD and map amendment. The ANC-6A stated the applicant made concerted efforts to listen to the community and its concerns regarding the proposal and that the PUD would provide a number of community benefits.
24. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) by memorandum dated March 3, 1995 indicated the following:

"While DHCD is generally pleased with the location and orientation of land uses, there are some concerns with the size of the development in comparison with the surrounding neighborhood. The proposed residential portion of the development will be ten (10) stories at eighty-five (85) feet and fifteen (15) stories at one-hundred and thirty (130) feet. The proposed commercial portion of the development will be twelve (12) stories at one-hundred and thirty (130) feet. DHCD would ask the developer to reconsider the overall height of the building(s) and possibly provide a more sensitive massing approach. The size of the development will generate many people in and out of the area, therefore, traffic flow and on-street parking on the surrounding streets are other issues that will have to be closely evaluated."

25. The District of Columbia Fire Department (DCFD) by report dated February 17, 1995 indicated the following;

"Based on our review we have no objection to this request. However, fire and life safety features required by city codes such as fire alarms, sprinkler systems, standpipes, exits, fire related separations, fire extinguisher, etc., shall be determined during the plan's review process as part of the building permit application review.

In addition to the above comments, the "Fire Lanes and Fire Hydrants Act of 1977 - D.C. Law 2-90 must be complied with."

26. Three individuals testified in support of the proposals. Their testimony highlighted the following points;
- a. The applicant has worked well with the community in addressing its concerns relative to this project.
  - b. The Zoning Commission should consider a slight reduction in the project's height.
  - c. A great need exists in the neighborhood for a project of this kind that is being proposed.
  - d. The project's housing component is commendable.
  - e. Support is contingent upon no changes being made to the project's housing component as it has been proposed, including its location on 3rd Street.
27. There were no parties appearing at the hearing in opposition to the request.
28. By letter dated April 7, 1995, the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association (SPNA) expressed its concerns regarding the proposed PUD. SPNA stated that, although the proposed PUD does not come within SPNA's boundaries, it is in such close proximity that its existence will inevitably have a marked impact on large portions of the neighborhood. SPNA urged the Zoning Commission to oppose the PUD in its present form.
29. At its public meeting on April 10, 1995, the Commission reviewed and discussed the case for proposed action. The Commission determined that more specific information was needed as follows:
- a. A Transportation Management Plan must be submitted;

- b. All traffic and transportation issues raised by the Department of Public Works in its report must be addressed and resolved;
  - c. Specific amenities must be identified and pinned-down, including the provision of a discrete analysis of the commitment for use of the 60,000 square foot area and the management of that space and the plaza space;
  - d. A description of all building materials must be submitted;
  - e. A description of all planting materials in conjunction with a completed landscape plan must be submitted; and
  - f. A re-evaluation of the height, bulk and density of the project with an analysis of square footage and number of units that would be lost if the building is 90 feet in height.
30. At its public meeting held on May 23, 1995, the Commission took proposed action to approve the case. At that meeting, the Commission reviewed the applicant's letter dated April 25, 1995 which contained the following:
1. Applicant's response to the Zoning Commission requested for additional information;
  2. Revised Conclusions of Law and Draft Order;
  3. Transportation Management Plan; and
  4. Project design statement, and transportation/environmental analysis.
31. The Commission also indicated that more specific information is needed before final action can be taken. The requested information was as follows:
- a. A lighting plan, showing the location, type and distribution of exterior lighting must be submitted;
  - b. A completed landscape plan identifying the species, location, description and size of all plant materials and/or ground coverings must be submitted;
  - c. The color and type of the pre-finished aluminum frames must be submitted;

- d. The correct size of the day care center, 2500 square feet vs. 12,500 square feet;
  - e. Letters of commitment from the vocational training school, the business training school, the grocery store and the day care center must be submitted;
  - f. A plan showing the type and location of the exterior signage must be submitted;
  - g. Samples of all building materials must be submitted; and
  - h. Executed agreements from the Minority Business Opportunity Commission (MBOC) and the Department of Employment Services (DOES) must be submitted.
32. DPW by report dated May 8, 1995 indicated the following;
- "The applicant has submitted a Transportation Management Plan, as requested by the Department of Public Works, in its report on Zoning Commission Case No. 93-3C dated March 17, 1995. The proposed plan if properly implemented, will mitigate traffic and parking impacts in the neighborhood residential area. With regard to loading activity, DPW's concern was with the residential component of the project. We note that the applicant will limit such loading activity to off-peak periods only. The Department is glad to report that the PUD will comply with all DPW requirements and recommendations to make the project workable."
33. Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A by report dated May 2, 1995 reported that both the civic groups, Near-Northeast Citizens Against Crime and Drugs, and the Public Interest Civic Association voted unanimously to approve the PUD at 200 K Street, N.E. and urged the Zoning Commission to approve the project.
34. On June 12, 1995 at its regular monthly meeting, the Zoning Commission considered all of the post hearing submissions and the specific requested additional information. At that meeting, the Commission determined that the requirements stipulated by the Commission with regard to lighting, landscaping, building material, signage and tree planting will be added to the conditions of approval in its order, particularly planting of three-inch caliper trees to represent the size of the trees depicted on the plans.
35. The Commission concurs with the recommendations and/or positions of OP, DPW, DHCD, DCFD, ANC-6A and the applicant and believes that the application should be approved.

36. The Commission believes that the proposal's consistency with the Comprehensive Plan meets the goals and objections of the plan relative to the provision of a medium-high density commercial project on the site. The Commission also believes the proposed 230 residential units, would add to the housing stock in the area and help buffer the existing residential neighborhood from the proposed commercial development. The Commission believes the project's commercial component could provide an economic stimulus for the area, acting as a catalyst for future commercial development to the immediate north and east of the site.
37. The Commission concurs with the applicant that the mixed-use project is appropriate for the site and is not inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
38. The Commission finds that the applicant has met the requirements of 11 DCMR Chapter 24 and has satisfied the intent and purpose thereof.
39. The proposed action of the Zoning Commission to approve the application with conditions was referred to the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) under the terms of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act. The NCPC, by report dated September 7, 1995, indicated that the PUD would not adversely affect the Federal Establishment or other Federal interests in the National Capital, nor be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The planned unit development process is an appropriate means of controlling development of the subject site, because control of the use and site plan are essential to ensure compatibility with the neighborhood.
2. The development of this PUD carries out the purposes of Chapter 24 to encourage the development of well-planned residential, commercial and mixed-use developments which will offer a variety of building types with more attractive and efficient overall planning and design not achievable under matter of right development.
3. The development of this PUD is compatible with city-wide goals, plans and programs, and is sensitive to environmental protection and energy conservation.
4. The approval of this application is not inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan of the District of Columbia.

5. The approval of this application is consistent with the purposes of the Zoning Act.
6. The proposed application can be approved with conditions which ensure that the development will not have an adverse affect on the surrounding community, but will enhance the neighborhood and ensure neighborhood stability.
7. The approval of this application will promote orderly development in conformity with the entirety of the District of Columbia zoning plan, as embodied in the Zoning Regulations and Map of the District of Columbia.
8. The Zoning Commission has accorded to the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A the "great weight" to which it is entitled.
9. This application is subject to compliance with D.C. Law 2-38, the Human Rights Act of 1977.

In consideration of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein, the District of Columbia Zoning Commission hereby orders APPROVAL of this application for a consolidated Planned Unit Development and map amendment from M and C-M-1 to C-3-C for lots 1 and 2 in Square 749 for premises 200 K Street, N.E. The approval of this PUD and change in zoning are subject to the following guidelines, conditions and standards:

1. The planned unit development (PUD) shall be developed in accordance with plans prepared by Brennan Beer Gorman, marked as Exhibit Nos. 36 and 37 of the record, as modified by the guidelines, conditions and standards of the order.
2. The project shall be developed as an office/residential project with a maximum floor area ratio (FAR) of 8.0.
3. The residential building shall have a maximum height of 15 stories/130 feet.
4. The office building shall have a maximum height of 12 stories/130 feet.
5. The total lot occupancy of the project shall not exceed 71 percent of the site.
6. The residential building shall contain a minimum of 200 units.
7. The applicant shall provide a minimum of 588 parking spaces consisting of full-size, compact and handicapped spaces. Of this total, 100 spaces are allocated for the residential component at a rate of one space per two dwelling units.

8. The applicant shall provide 17 parking spaces for bicycles.
9. The applicant shall implement the Transportation Management Plan submitted and marked as part of Exhibit No. 60 of the record.
10. The applicant shall bear the cost of signaling the intersections of L Street at 2nd and 3rd Streets, N.E. The signalization shall be in place at the time any part of the development becomes operational.
11. The applicant shall widen 2nd Street, between K and L Streets, as specified by the Department of Public Works.
12. The applicant shall provide five loading berths and two service delivery areas in accordance with the plans marked as Exhibit No. 37 of the record.
13. All loading activity for the residential component of the project shall be from L Street, N.E. and shall occur during off-peak periods only.
14. The project shall include the following on-site amenities:
  - (a) A minimum of 200 new housing units.
  - (b) a 30,000 square foot plaza. The plaza shall be an open, landscaped area for tenant and community use. It shall have electric and water connections. It shall be managed and maintained by the developer in consultation with the community;
  - (c) a 2,500 square foot day care center to be managed and operated privately;
  - (d) a 1,600 square foot security kiosk to be managed and operated by the developer, using private security;
  - (e) a 15,000 square foot vocational training facility for the construction trade industry;
  - (f) a 5,000 square foot business training school managed by "Cities in Schools"; and
  - (g) a 40,000 square foot supermarket.
15. Street/sidewalk lights shall be provided per the District of Columbia requirements and the plaza shall be evenly lit from

above with diffuse lights integrated into the building cornice at the 30-foot height. The lighting rays for the plaza area shall be focused onto the plaza.

16. Commercial signage for tenants will be limited to one foot high letters within internally lit sign bands integrated into the storefront system. Building signage will be precast concrete set into the building facades. Letter size will be appropriate to surrounding decorative elements, approximately one foot high.
17. Landscaping shall be provided as shown on Sheet A-1 of Exhibit No. 37 of the record. The 26 trees identified on the landscaping plan shall be a minimum of three-inch caliper in size.
18. The residential building shall have a dark red/brown brick skin at the base and a buff color brick above the base. The office building shall have a precast skin of buff with a dark red/brown color brick at the base.
19. Windows for both buildings shall have off-white prefinished aluminum frames and insulated glass.
20. The applicant shall have flexibility with respect to the following:
  - (a) Varying the location and design of all interior components, including partitions, structural elements, slabs, doors, hallways, columns, stairways, location of elevators, electrical and mechanical rooms, provided that the variations do not change the exterior configuration of the building;
  - (b) Making minor adjustments in the facade, window and balcony detailing, including the flexibility to shift the location of the doors to the retail uses on the ground floor and vary the type of paneling used on the retail frontage in order to accommodate the different types of retail uses;
  - (c) Varying the arrangement of parking spaces, modification of below-grade space to accommodate the need of tenants and uses of the project and handicapped persons, provided that there is no reduction in the total number of parking spaces provided.
21. Antennas and satellite dishes shall be permitted on the roof of the buildings subject to the applicable Zoning Regulations.

22. The applicant shall comply with the Memorandum of Understanding entered into with the Minority Business Opportunity Commission, which provides for the award of at least 35 percent of the construction related contracts for the project to Certified Minority Business Enterprises detailed in Exhibit No. 70 of the record.
23. The applicant shall comply with the First Source Agreement with the Department of Employment Service (DOES) which provides that the applicant will use DOES as its first source for the recruitment, referral and placement of employees in connection with the construction of the project as detailed in Exhibit No. 67.
24. The change of zoning from C-M-1 and M to C-3-C for Lots 1 and 2 in Square 749 shall be effective upon recordation of the PUD covenant as required by 11 DCMR 2407.3.
25. No building permit shall be issued for the site until the applicant has recorded a covenant in the land records of the District of Columbia between the owner and the District of Columbia satisfactory to the Office of Corporation Counsel and the Zoning Regulatory Division of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA). The covenant shall bind the owner and all successors in title to construction and use of the property in accordance with this Order and amendments thereto of the Zoning Commission.
26. The Office of Zoning shall not release the record of this case to the Zoning Division of DCRA until the applicant has filed a certified copy of the covenant with the records of the Zoning Commission.
27. The PUD approved by the Zoning Commission shall be valid for a period of two years from the effective date of this Order. Within such time, the applicant must file for a building permit as specified in 11 DCMR Section 2407.1 and Section 2406.8. Construction shall start within three years of the effective date of this Order.
28. Pursuant to D.C. Code Section 1-2531 (1987), Section 267 of D.C. Law 2-38, the Human Rights Act of 1977, the applicant is required to comply fully with the provisions of D.C. Law 2-38, as amended, codified as D.C. Code, Title 1, Chapter 25, (1987), and this Order is conditioned upon full compliance with those provisions. Nothing in this Order shall be understood to require the Zoning Division of DCRA to approve permits if the applicant fails to comply with any provisions of D.C. Law 2-38, as amended.

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Vote of the Zoning Commission taken at the public meeting on May 23, 1995: 3-1 (Maybelle Taylor Bennett, Jerrily R. Kress and William L. Ensign to approve - John G. Parsons, to deny).

This order was adopted by the Zoning Commission at its public meeting on September 11, 1995, by a vote of 3-1 (Maybelle Taylor Bennett, William L. Ensign and Jerrily R. Kress to adopt, John G. Parsons opposed).

In accordance with provisions of 11 DCMR 3028, this order shall become final and effective upon publication in the D.C. Register, that is on OCT 27 1995.

  
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JERRILY R. KRESS  
Chairperson  
Zoning Commission

  
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MADELIENE H. ROBINSON  
Director  
Office of Zoning

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