



Good Faith Communities Coalition

Taking action on homelessness and affordable housing with and for the poor in the District of Columbia

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Board of Zoning Adjustment approves exceptions and variances needed for short term family housing in Wards 3 and 5.

At its April 5th meeting, the BZA members individually discussed their analysis of the many hours of testimony from the March 1 hearings. They agreed that the applicant (the city) had provided the information necessary for a decision in each case. They found that the service program responded to a compelling community need effectively and efficiently. Also, they acknowledged that the search process, though perhaps not ideal, was comprehensive and showed no alternative sites available.

The chair noted that over one hundred letters of support for the Ward 3 site had been received. In each case the city's willingness to work with the community on facility site placement and parking were also noted. Though parking remains an issue in Ward 3, the commissioners felt that the community/city dialog already underway would resolve the remaining problems. **The vote in favor was 4 - 0 for each case.**

Mayor presents [Proposed Budget](#) for FY 2018

On April 4 Mayor Bowser presented the Council with a proposed budget. The Council will schedule hearings through its various committees, with a final Council vote in late May. More information will be provided in the next newsletter as Good Faith analyzes the budget and prepares testimony. Of particular concern are the programs that support the families who will live in the short term family housing as they prepare to move to independent living, and that meet the urgent needs of the chronically homeless who live in shelter or on the street.

On March 1, 2017, 836 families with 1731 children were living in shelter; 1089 single men and women also resided in shelters in DC.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten - Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.



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