



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

May 21, 2021

Marnique Heath, Chair
Historic Preservation Review Board
Office of Planning
1100 4th Street SW, Suite E650
Washington, DC 20024
historic.preservation@dc.gov

RE: 1637 17th Street NW (HPRB #21-318)

Dear Chair Heath:

At its regular meeting on May 12, 2021, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 9 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-2-0):

WHEREAS, ANC 2B finds that the owner of 1637 17th Street NW, the applicant for Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) application #21-318, is seeking support for concept plans to enclose an existing sidewalk café facing R Street NW,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B, in May of 2021, reviewed in an online Zoom meeting the architectural plans, elevations, and color photographs, and received a presentation on the project using the materials submitted to HPRB for consideration at their meeting scheduled for May 27, 2021,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B’s Land Use Committee (LUC) previously reviewed these plans on May 5, 2021 in an online Zoom meeting and did not find reason to outright oppose the project,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that the applicants propose to remove windows that were installed more recently than the building as a whole,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that the proposed dining enclosure would maintain operable windows with clear vision glass in an effort to maintain the outdoor café character and vibrancy along 17th Street NW,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B appreciates the applicant’s lowering of the roof height to reduce the enclosure’s footprint and to maintain visibility of the decorative frieze,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that further modifications may be necessary to mitigate impacts on viewshed and visibility of surrounding businesses as a result of the enclosure such as increasing the height of the windows and maximizing visibility through transparent and clear vision glass,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that further modifications may be necessary to reduce the physical massing and overall presence of the proposed enclosure, including height, depth, and a lighter color palette, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the concept plans appear to be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the zoning regulations and zoning maps and will only have a marginal impact on adjacent properties in this context.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the Historic Preservation Review Board application for 1637 17th Street NW with modifications to further advance the goals listed in the previous clauses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages further cooperation between the applicant and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to replace the existing R Street NW bike racks adjacent to the property with a new micro-mobility corral near the intersection of 17th Street NW in order to accommodate a wider pedestrian clear zone fronting the proposed dining enclosure.

Commissioners Mo Pasternak (2B04@anc.dc.gov) and Daniel Warwick (2B02@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,



Daniel Warwick
Chair