

January 21, 2022

The Honorable Randy Speck
Chairman, Advisory Neighborhood Commission ANC 3/4G
2940 Northampton St, NW
Washington, DC 200015

RE: Agenda Item #2: Application for a public space permit to extend an existing alley behind 6451 and 6455 Barnaby St NW to allow access to the rear of 6455 Barnaby St NW (TOPS Tracking Number 3848825)

Dear Commissioner Speck,

We, the immediately adjacent neighbors to alley in question, **write in opposition to the public space permit** extending the alley previously used and enjoyed by our community as open space/wildlife habitat.

Most of us signed a November 2, 2021-letter (14 signatories) to Commissioner Gore, DCRA Director Chrappah, and OP Director Trueblood and a follow up December 21, 2021-letter (22 signatories) to DDOT Director Lott. Both of those letters expressed our opposition to changing the use of the public alley in question. It was the November letter that prompted the engagement of Commissioners Gore and Zeldin. They have represented the community well and have been more engaged than we could have ever hoped. We are grateful for their efforts.

When we purchased our homes, we did so with the understanding that the area behind our property was intentionally kept in open space to the benefit of the environment and our viewshed. This area has correctly been used as habitat for wildlife and in protection of a tributary to Rock Creek. As you know, DDOT has authority over public alleys. As we understand, there are alleys like ours scattered throughout the city which are purposely undeveloped and considered “paper alleys”. That has been the status of our alley and we urge you to reject any proposal to improve the paper alley to allow automobile traffic behind our homes.

As you can see from the attached photo, the improved alley purposely terminates at a gate and the paper alley extends to Worthington Street, NW - with a meandering stream that ultimately feeds into Rock Creek. At the beginning of last year (February/March 2021), the developer of 6455 Barnaby Street, NW (Kerameddine Dris and Jacqueline Battistini/Dris) installed an illegal road to the rear of their property. After the mayor’s office and ANC Commissioners engaged, DDOT inspected the property (on or about 11/9/21) and instructed the developers to remove the road and remediate the area. The road has been removed, but some rock remains and no vegetation has been planted.

Now, we find ourselves writing another letter in opposition to the developers attempt to permit what they had done illegally to the detriment of our neighborhood. We continue to be opposed to any improvement of the paper alley for the use of automobile traffic and parking. The public alley is currently in use for the benefit of the natural environment – namely, flora, fauna and watershed. Further,

we hope the ANC will also recognize that the city's net zero by 2050 goals are undermined by paving over open space and issuing permits that allow additional automobile traffic and parking. Public safety is already a concern behind our homes. In recent years, the alley has been vandalized with graffiti and extending the improved alley behind our homes will undoubtedly bring added security risks.

Please note that the following signatories to this letter include all of the adjacent properties to the area in question - in particular, 6451 Barnaby Street, NW (referenced on your agenda). We urge that the ANC:

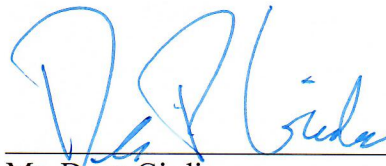
1. vote to reject the public space application (TOPS Tracking #: 384882); *and*
2. pass a resolution of opposition to any action that would develop the paper alley.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this letter. We urge the ANC to act by protecting the immediate landowners and the rights of all who live and enjoy this neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Susanne Leloup
6431 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



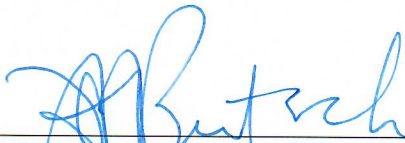
Mr. Dean Girdis
6431 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mrs. Cynthia Hinchman
6447 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mr. James Hinchman
6447 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mrs. Jennifer Bertsch
6451 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



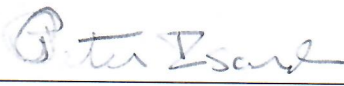
Mr. Jason Bertsch
6451 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015





Mrs. Dania Palanker
6501 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015




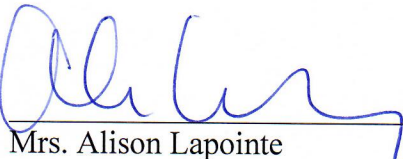
Mr. Michael Bogomolny
6501 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

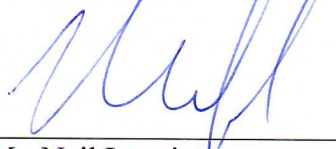

Mrs. Margaret Cooke
6513 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mr. Peter Isard
6513 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mrs. Frederique Irwin
3220 Worthington Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

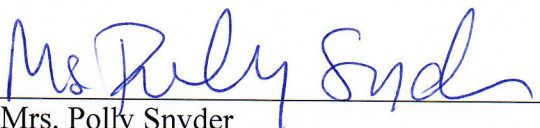

Dr. Jesse Irwin
3220 Worthington Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

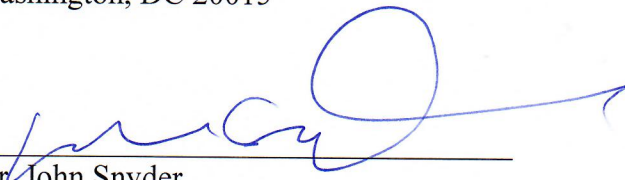

Mrs. Alison Lapointe
3200 Worthington Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

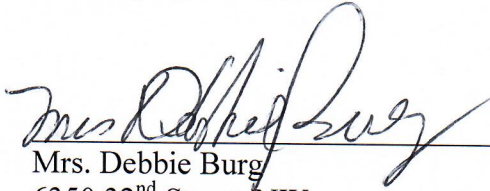

Mr. Neil Lapointe
3200 Worthington Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

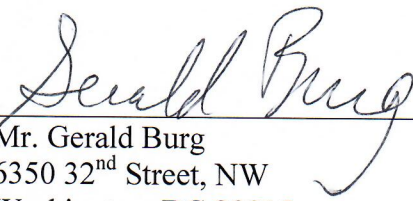

Mrs. Caroline Banta
6460 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

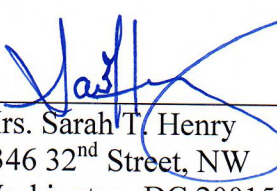

Mr. Henry M. Banta
6460 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mrs. Polly Snyder
6354 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

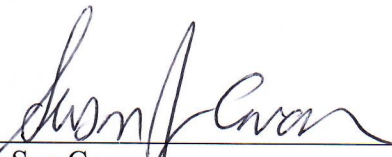

Mr. John Snyder
6354 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mrs. Debbie Burg
6350 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

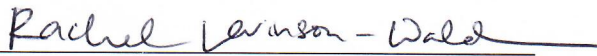

Mr. Gerald Burg
6350 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mrs. Sarah T. Henry
6346 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

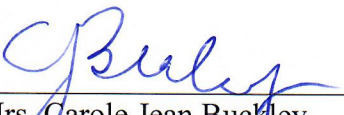

Mr. Michael K. Henry
6346 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

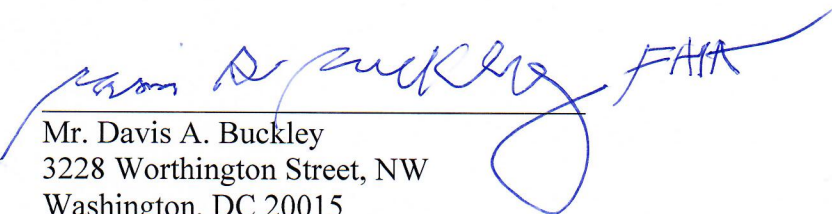

Mrs. Sue Caras
6342 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

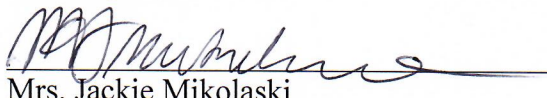

Mr. Dean Caras
6342 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015



Mrs. Rachel Levinson-Waldman
6338 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

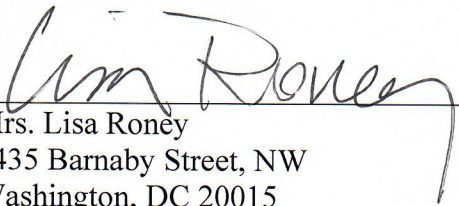

Mr. Ariel Levinson-Waldman
6338 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

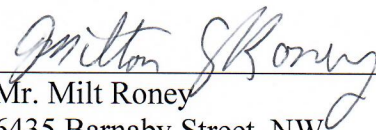

Mrs. Carole Jean Buckley
3228 Worthington Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

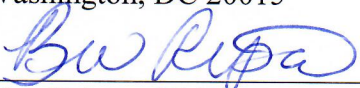

Mr. Davis A. Buckley
3228 Worthington Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

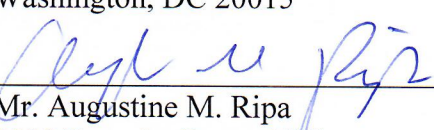

Mrs. Jackie Mikolaski
6322 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015


Mr. Stephen Mikolaski
6322 32nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015


Mrs. Lisa Roney
6435 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015


Mr. Milt Roney
6435 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015


Mrs. Brianna N. Ripa
6508 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015


Mr. Augustine M. Ripa
6508 Barnaby Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015

CC:

The Honorable Muriel Bowser; Mayor, Washington, DC

Hon. Janeese Lewis George, Councilmember Ward 4

DC Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners 3/4G

Mr. Ernest Chrappah; Director, District Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA)

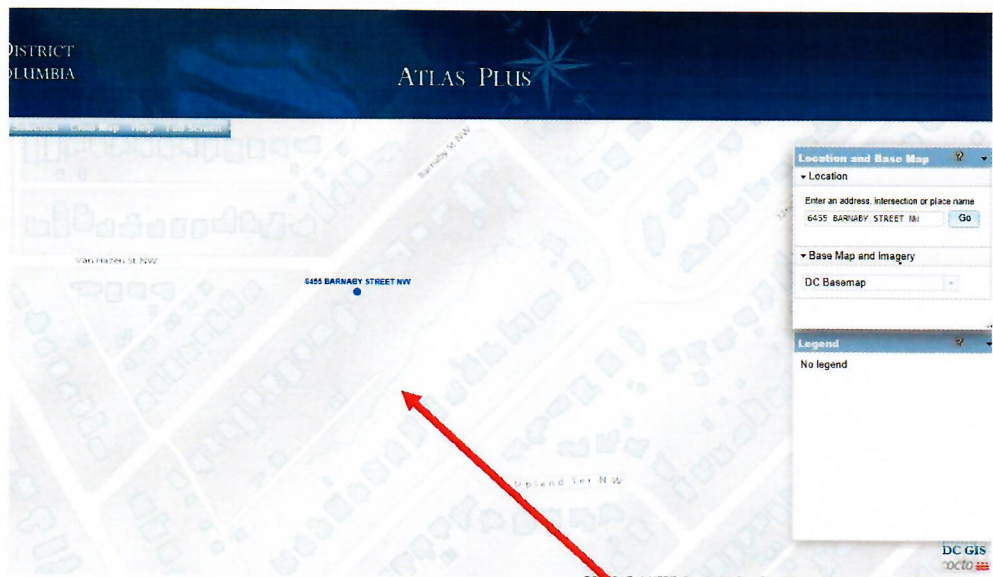
Mr. Andrew Trueblood; Director, DC Office of Planning (OP)

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

Photo depicting the end of the alley:





DC Basemap illustrates where Public Alley ends, and historic right of way begins for stream that ultimately feeds into Rock Creek Park