

Cleveland Park Citizens Association
P.O. Box 11444
Washington, DC 20008

July 25, 2019

Nyasha Smith
Secretary to the Council
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 5
Washington, D.C. 20004
Re: B23-0180 On-Site Services Act of 2019
VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

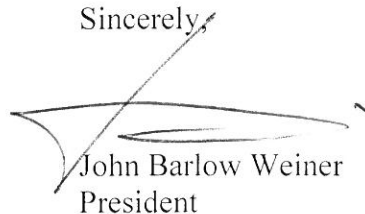
Dear Ms. Smith,

The Cleveland Park Citizens Association (CPCA) is a membership organization composed of residents of Cleveland Park. CPCA seeks to enhance the quality of life in Cleveland Park by addressing issues of broad-based concern and relevance, to support a diverse, thriving, forward-looking neighborhood while preserving its character. We are submitting these comments in the hopes of advancing sound policy to promote and protect the diversity and vibrancy of our particular community and of the city as a whole.

A critical element of such policy is addressing the needs of vulnerable populations, including housing and the provision of needed social services. However, we are concerned that the approach proposed in the On-Site Services Act of 2019 bill (B23-0180) will not address these needs well. Looking to landlords to coordinate needs assessments and the provision of social services seems unlikely to produce either efficient or effective outcomes. The District itself must hold responsibility for provision (including any through non-profit intermediaries) and oversight of social services, whether on-site or otherwise. Further, to ensure transparency and accountability, the District should maintain a publicly-available record of the kinds of data the bill currently proposes to make reportable under sec. 5(f).

We thank you for your consideration of our comments and would welcome the opportunity to engage further with the District government on these important issues.

Sincerely,



John Barlow Weiner
President