

# The Garden

Madison Weitekamp <madison.weitekamp@gmail.com>

Wed 3/27/2019 6:56 PM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

Hello,

I recently read the article in the patch about the garden opening next to Charlie's on the ave. I wanted to reach out and say that I think this would be a great idea. I am of the younger generation in del Ray and this would be an awesome addition to the avenue. It has my full support!

Thanks,

Madison Weitekamp  
C:(703)-599-5717

# Happy to have The (Beer) Garden opening soon!

Monika Schiavo <mvschiavo@gmail.com>

Wed 3/27/2019 7:56 PM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

To the members of the Alexandria Planning Committee:

I wanted to let your committee know that my family is looking forward to the opening of The Garden on Mount Vernon next to Charlie's.

We support the approval of this particular business for several reasons. First of all, they will be dog-friendly! Which will be great for all of us thirsty dog owners who love to socialize with our four-legged friends.

We have driven several times to Port City Brewery to enjoy their beer garden. The well-behaved guests ranged in age from young parents with kids to (ahem) older-but-still-cool adults. This is the type of desirable customer I expect to see at the new venue.

That being said, The Garden will definitely help raise the attractiveness of that small section of Del Ray. With Charlie's and Junction offering dinner and lunch, that area becomes even more attractive to visitors.

I know that parking is a perennial concern in DR but I think The Garden will draw more of a walking crowd of adults, kids, and again, dogs.

We love the walkability of Del Ray, we love our neighbors and our dogs and we love beer!

Thanks for approving The Garden!

All the best from your supporters, John and Monika

# The Garden

Stirling Walker <stirlingwalker@hotmail.com>

Wed 3/27/2019 8:50 PM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

I am reaching out to say that we are looking to The Garden opening in Del Ray. I think it will be a great new space. It a the vibe that's missing. I can see this space welcoming young adults through older folks. Please vote to provide them a special permit. We are really excited for them to open this spring. Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa Stirling Walker  
411 E Bellefonte Ave  
Alexandria, VA 22301  
703-599-5011

Sent from Stir's iPhone

# I support the Garden on Mt Vernon Ave!

jpatrick1977@gmail.com

Wed 3/27/2019 11:25 PM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

Hello, I'm a resident of Del Ray on Duncan Ave and I would like to show my full support to the opening of the Garden on Mt. Vernon Ave. I think it is a much needed addition to the community, for it will add another great place for the community to gather and enjoy the outdoors while supporting another great Del Ray business.

John Patrick

Sent from my iPhone

# The Garden

Brian Butts <streamlinecrd@gmail.com>

Thu 3/28/2019 9:39 AM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

Hello all,

My name is Brian Butts and I am a local resident on E. Raymond Ave. where I live with my wife and two kids.

We have lived in Del Ray for 6 years and love its unique neighborhood style.

One of the things we love most is sitting outside on the Ave. in the spring, summer, and fall. Sometimes even the winter!

I am writing on behalf of The Garden, and would love to see another option along the Ave to sit out and enjoy food drink and friends.

Thanks for your time. Looking forward to spring!

Brian

Sent from my iPhone

# The Garden in Del Ray

Steve Beggs <steve@tartanproperties.com>

Thu 3/28/2019 10:16 AM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

Cc: mike@tartanproperties.com <mike@tartanproperties.com>;

Dear Planning Commission Members,

As a resident of Del Ray, I am in favor of a separate restaurant called The Garden in Del Ray at 1503-1505 Mount Vernon Avenue.

I support the proposed outdoor seating, hours of operation and outdoor alcohol sales as requested by the ownership group of the restaurant.

The Garden in Del Ray, having a yard area and table games, TVs and outdoor speakers playing music will add to our local amenities.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope to see you on the Avenue soon,

**Steve Beggs**

Tartan Properties Commercial

1020 Wythe Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 836-6546 work

(571) 334-8098 cell

[www.tartanproperties.com](http://www.tartanproperties.com)



# Support for "The Garden" in Del Ray

Ben Flood <benaflood@gmail.com>

Thu 3/28/2019 11:07 AM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

Council Members,

I am writing to express my support for The Garden proposed at 1503 Mount Vernon Ave which I understand is docketed for City Council Approval in April. As a Del Ray resident, my family looks forward to the opportunity for additional outdoor dining options. On nice days, outdoor dining capacity is limited. This application shall help meet a need while enriching the already diverse and active environment on the Avenue.

Thanks,  
Ben Flood  
119 E Raymond Ave

# The Garden in Del Ray

Nicole Coleman <ncole008@gmail.com>

Thu 3/28/2019 8:08 PM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

To whom it may concern,

I am looking forward for outdoor restaurant The Garden in Del Ray, to open. It will be an unique addition to the community that we have not seen before. Local businesses give a community its flavor!

I was excited to hear that the owners of Live Oak and Charlie's on the Ave would be opening a third restaurant. Having the owners nearby also means that owner personally knows their customers. They know the products you buy on a regular basis and make you feel like you are apart of the family. I feel better knowing my dollar is being spent locally rather than at a chain;  
which will benefit me and my neighbors, both businesses and families alike.

Respectfully,  
Nicole Coleman

# Support of Del Ray Garden

Gabby Wolosik <gabbywolosik@gmail.com>

Fri 3/29/2019 10:38 PM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a Del Ray resident of 4 1/2 years, and I'm writing to express my support of the beirgarten in Del Ray Garden. I live on Commonwealth Avenue, and it would be great to have a fun, outdoor setting in walking distance to meet up with friends for some great food and drinks. The Del Ray community is all about different cultures, and this beirgarten would certainly add to that! It was so exciting to hear about the possibility of Del Ray Garden in the community, especially since it is a sister restaurant of Live Oak and Charlie's, two other fun and family friendly locations. The beirgarten would not only encourage Del Ray residents like myself to spend more time in our own neighborhood, but it will also attract visitors from other neighboring areas to come here as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Gabby Wolosik  
Del Ray Resident

# DEL RAY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

[WWW.delraycitizens.org](http://WWW.delraycitizens.org)

P.O. Box 2233, Alexandria, VA 22301

April 1, 2019

Karl W. Moritz, Acting Director,  
Department of Planning and Zoning  
City of Alexandria  
City Hall, Room 2100  
Alexandria, VA 22314

RE: SUP #2019-004  
1503 & 1505 Mt. Vernon Ave  
Del Ray Gardens Restaurant

The Del Ray Citizens Association (DRCA) Land Use Committee (LUC) has reviewed the above referenced SUP application for a change in ownership and addition of a kitchen inside the building. The committee supports the applicant's request with the following additional conditions to be added, as they are not addressed in the staff report:

1. Provision of bike racks to the property. Bikes are a popular means of transport in Del Ray and given the limited amount of parking, should be required.
2. While the outdoor grilling is only allowed with a special events permit, the LUC recommends the permit be limited in frequency to minimize the impact on the adjacent neighbor.
3. While there is a trash area indicated on the submitted plan and conditions 8 & 17 refer to the screening and containment of trash, there is not a condition on the pick-up of trash. Should commercial trash services be employed, trash pick-up shall not occur before 7 am on weekdays and 9 am on weekends.

The LUC would like to point out that a subsequent plan submitted by the applicant did not comply with Condition 26 (blocking of windows), and that the LUC had notified the applicant of the mechanical code requirements related to the proper venting of their proposed kitchen equipment. This could have required additional mechanical equipment and screening, which was a major issue with the neighbors during the discussion of SUP#2018-0005 /1501 Mt. Vernon Ave (Charlie's). Delays in receiving the requested information resulted in the LUC having to review this via email and not at our regularly scheduled meeting, so

there was not an opportunity for the neighbors to comment on the proposed changes. The LUC requested the applicant's representative notify the neighbors, but it is not known if they were informed.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and the opinions of the Land Use Committee.

Sincerely,

Kristine Hesse, Co-Chair  
Del Ray Citizens Association  
Land Use Committee

Cc: Max Ewart, Staff Reviewer  
Cathy Puskar, Applicant Representative

# Opening of "the Garden" in the old Green Street Garden space

Aaron Smith <Aaron\_Smith@Edwards.com>

Mon 4/1/2019 2:48 PM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

To City Council or whomever it may concern-

I wanted to share my support of the proposed "Garden" space to be built out in the open space next to Charlies on the Avenue. As a resident of Del Ray and a frequent customer to Charlies (and the area) I feel that this is something that will bring the community together and provide additional (and much needed) outdoor gathering spaces. Our community is a tight knit community, family friendly and one that supports our local business owners and this proposed used of space certainly checks the boxes for one of these criteria. The southern end of Mt. Vernon Ave has the opportunity to extend its charm from neighborhood spots like the Front Porch and Stomping Ground and this would be a huge step in the right direction.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding my support for this proposal, or any other future proposals to come.

Proud Del Ray Neighbor-

**Aaron Smith**

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# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 2, 2019

TO: CHAIRMAN MACEK AND MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

FROM: KARL MORITZ, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ZONING

SUBJECT: DOCKET ITEM #3 - SUP #2019-0004 –  
1503 AND 1505 MOUNT VERNON AVENUE

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This memorandum offers background information in response to the April 1 Del Ray Citizens Association (DRCA) memorandum that outlined recommendations for conditions and mentioned concerns related to the building exterior for SUP #2019-0004.

### **A. DRCA-proposed conditions**

#### *1) Bicycle rack requirement*

Special Use Permits have occasionally required bicycle racks in instances when the request included a parking reduction.

#### *2) Limit frequency of outdoor grilling through a special events permit*

Condition 25 states: Outdoor cooking is not permitted except through approval of a Special Event Permit issued by the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities Department of the City of Alexandria. Outdoor cooking shall occur at least 45 feet from the rear property lines.

The Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) department issues special events permits for events that are occasional in nature, such as a Fourth of July or a business anniversary gathering, and are not intended for frequent and regular events.

#### *3) Condition to limit morning hours of commercial trash pick-up*

The DRCA requests that an added condition requires the applicant to restrict trash pick-up to 7 a.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. on weekends. Section 5-1-42(c) of the City Code requires private trash collection, that occurs within 500 feet from a residential area, to take place outside the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. and no earlier than 6 a.m. from May 1 through September 30.

### **B. Concerns**

#### *1) Blocking of a front window with a refrigeration unit*

One of the two front building windows is proposed to be blocked by refrigeration equipment. The DRCA recognizes that this would run counter to Condition 26, requiring the windows to remain transparent. As the building façade is located a distance from the pedestrian right-of-way,

staff does not oppose the blocking of one window and requiring the second window near the building corner to allow visibility into the restaurant space. Staff recommends an amendment to Condition 26 as:

26. **CONDITION AMENDED BY PLANNING COMMISSION:** ~~All~~ The windows near the north corner of the building façade shall remain transparent. The placement or construction of items that block the visibility through the windows of the interior of the commercial space from the street and sidewalk, including but not limited to walls, window film, storage cabinets, carts, shelving, boxes, coat racks, storage bins, and closets, shall be prohibited. This is not intended to prevent retailers from displaying their goods in display cases that are oriented towards street frontage. ~~(P&Z)~~ (PC)

*2) Exterior mechanical equipment and screening*

The last paragraph also references conversations between DRCA members and the applicant's contractor on the code requirements related to venting, mechanical equipment, and screening. These elements will be included in the building permit review by City departments for code and zoning compliance and occurs after an SUP is approved.

Staff continues to recommend approval of SUP #2019-0004, subject to the amendment of Condition 26.

# Letter in Support of Del Ray Garden

Brandon Flowers <bflowers.us@gmail.com>

Tue 4/2/2019 10:09 AM

To: PlanComm <PlanComm@alexandriava.gov>;

Hello,

I wanted to reach out to voice my support for the Del Ray Garden which is currently going through the approval process for a 2019 opening. As a resident who lives right down the street on Mount Vernon Avenue I am thrilled at the idea. I am excited about the outdoor space to enjoy the weather, hang out / play games with family and friends, and sample a wide variety of beers. I have had the opportunity to frequent the owners' other restaurants in the area (Live Oak, Charlies on the Avenue) - they have been great additions to the community and as family-owned establishments bring with them the character that makes Del Ray such a great place to live. I have no doubt that Del Ray Garden will continue that trend.

I hope that you will take this into consideration as you evaluate the Garden's proposal.

Thank you,  
Brandon

--

Brandon Flowers  
[bflowers.us@gmail.com](mailto:bflowers.us@gmail.com)  
703.505.2673