

DEL RAY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

www.delraycitizens.org

P.O. Box 2233, Alexandria, VA 22301

Feb. 22, 2017

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

RE: Del Ray Pizzeria, SUP #2016-0097, Amendment to SUP #2011-0087

On Jan 10, 2017, the Del Ray Citizens Association (DRCA) Land Use Committee (LUC) reviewed Del Ray Pizzeria's request to amend existing SUP #2011-0087 to allow use of a second floor room without reservations. Under the existing SUP this space, which contains 30 seats, can only be used by reservation. The wording of the SUP is somewhat ambiguous as to whether "by reservation" must be one entity making a single reservation for the entire space for a single event, or whether reservations by multiple parties are allowed. Staff's account of the context that the approval of this SUP was originally granted is that the former use was what council had in mind.

The applicant is now requesting approval to use the upstairs room for special events and private parties not to exceed the current 30 seats. The events will include beer or wine dinners that individual tickets are sold for attendance. The second floor will also be rented out for private parties. Per SUP #2014-0033, Condition 2, the second floor is not allowed to be used for overflow seating from the main restaurant.

According to the applicant, the space will only be used when the ten required off-street parking spaces are available at 2401 Mt. Vernon Ave for the sole use of Del Ray Pizzeria customers. The applicant will inform the guests at the time they make the reservations of the 10 parking spaces and instruct the guests to tell the parking attendant that they are going to DRP and the attendant will instruct the guest which spaces to use. The hours available for the upstairs use would be Monday through Friday during the times of 5pm and 11pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 11pm.

The LUC is concerned that the original SUP application has not been revised to include an explanation from the applicant titled Proposed Use for 2nd Floor at Del Ray Pizzeria. There was much discussion concerning wording of the SUP at the meeting and this document was issued to help with the clarifying the arrangement. The LUC recommends the SUP be revised before it is reviewed by the Planning Commission so the record is clear.

We support the applicant's request to use the space in for the special events and private parties providing that the ten parking spaces are available to patrons of the upstairs space.

Sincerely,

Danielle Fidler
Kristine Hesse
DRCA LUC Co-Chairs

Rod Kuckro, DRCA President

Cc:Ann Horowitz, Staff Reviewer