The proposed ‘triumphal arch’ is an assault on the democratic principles of the country as expressed in our capital’s cityscape. In particular, this 250-foot monstrosity seems expressly designed to blot out the view of the Lincoln Memorial from Arlington National Cemetery. It is therefore a desecration, not just of Lincoln, but of our national cemetery itself, which was built for the repose and honor of our Civil War dead, led by our greatest President who destroyed slavery and defeated the Treason of the Confederacy. The arch is likewise alien in aspect, a garish knockoff of Napoleon’s Arc de Triomphe, a celebration of imperial conquest. There is no evading the fact that the current occupant of the office of the presidency has a lurid fetish for gross, grandiose symbols of his power and for vulgar monuments to himself. What ‘triumph’ does it commemorate? His coup against Venezuela? The debacle of his unprovoked war against Iran?
The proposed arch is an obscene affront to the public. If you assent to a tyrant’s despotic whims in raising it, we will raze it, R-A-Z-E, when we restore government by and for the People.

Regards,
Brendan Martin
Arlington