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2013 OCT 29 PM 12:21

Joann Teal O'Connell
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Washington, DC 20016

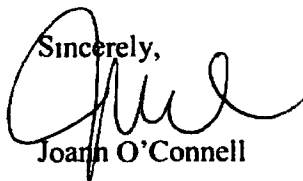
To the Board of Zoning Adjustment

My name is Joann O'Connell and I am the owner of the condominium located at 1426 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Apt E where I directly share a wall with the Helix Hotel. I have owned my unit for nearly 13 years, and I am writing in support of the Helix Hotel's request for a variance to renovate the hotel

The Helix took over ownership of the property around the same time that I bought my unit and they have been a great neighbor to me and our condo association throughout their entire time of owning the property. For any project that has occurred over the years, they have been extremely considerate to neighborly concerns. For example during the recent tuck pointing project, the Helix crew was careful to keep us informed of all the details of the project as well take measures to protect and clean our roof decks and courtyard. There are many other examples of this kind of neighborliness over the last few years. More generally, whenever we have raised a complaint—about noise, rodents, or anything else—their management has been very responsive to the issue. I firmly believe they will continue to be a good neighbor in the course of this upcoming planned renovation.

We as neighbors are sensitive to the noise and disruption that comes with a renovation project, but we also very much look forward to sharing a property line with a newly renovated five-star hotel. Through a series of planning meetings for this project, the hotel has shown a strong willingness to set agreed-upon hours for the construction so the disruption to the neighbors is minimized. Furthermore, as the Hotel has pointed out, they will work to ensure their own guests are not disrupted, confirming that our interests are aligned.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the Board to vote in favor of their application. I believe not only will the Helix continue to demonstrate courtesy to their neighbors, but also the addition of an upscale hotel will be a positive development overall to the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Joann O'Connell

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 18648

EXHIBIT NO. 28

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 18648
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