



Office of the President

Mr. Frederick L. Hill, Chairman D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment 441 Fourth Street N.W., Suite 200S Washington, D.C. 20001

February 20, 2018

Re: BZA Case No. 19377 – Lot 1067, Square 3648 – Townhouse and New Paulist Father Location at 3015 4th Street, NE

Dear Chairman Hill and Members of the Board:

I am writing on behalf of The Catholic University of America to express strong support for the BZA application for the proposed project featuring new townhouses and the new Paulist Fathers building on Lot 1067 in Square 3648.

I am the president of The Catholic University of America, located in the Brookland neighborhood near the property. We have been in the neighborhood for over a century and are practically next door neighbors. As such, we have reviewed the BZA application with great interest. It is important to us that the Brookland area maintains its unique blend of institutional and residential uses with appropriate density.

We agree with the Paulists that the project at 3015 4th Street NE will benefit our community and the District of Columbia. Most importantly, the project is a sensitively designed enhancement to the site that will create new residential opportunities in an area that is ideally situated for families. No residents will be displaced as the result of this project. In fact, the project will allow families to remain in the District and in the area.

As a neighbor, we are also happy to see that this project allows the Paulist Fathers to remain in the neighborhood. The Fathers have been an important part of our local fabric for generations. They have been consistently open to the wider community and remain so to this day. The Paulist Fathers are active members of our community and I see great value in their remaining in such capacity.

The concept design for the project also incorporates plenty of open space and greenery, laying the new townhouses and future Paulist Building into the landscape rather than projecting the new buildings into the landscape. The resulting design is one that sensitively co-exists with the natural environment rather than one that imposes a residential community onto its site. In addition, they have gone to great lengths to save a large number of trees on the property, at the cost of removing several townhouses from the design. Also importantly, the open space, including the various yards around the proposed buildings, allows for a sense of openness appropriate for this property's context.

We believe that this project is a wise move for this Property and benefits the wider Brookland community. This is the type of investment in our neighborhood that increases the value of our community and enhances the area for everybody. Thank you for taking the time to receive our input on this important project. We would be happy to provide additional information if helpful.

Sincerely,

John Garvey President