★ ★ ★ **Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D**

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12 July 2005

Carol J. Mitten, Chairman
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th St., NW Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

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Re: Case No. 03-30
Old Friendship Baptist Church PUD (734 1st St., SW)

Dear Commissioner Mitten:

I am writing to communicate the position of Advisory Neighborhood Commission on the PUD for the Old Friendship Baptist Church site. At a duly noticed meeting on Monday, May 9, 2005, at which a quorum was present (4 of 7 members comprising a quorum), ANC 6D voted 4-3 to oppose the applicant's proposal for a PUD for the site.

I understand that there was some confusion as to the standing of that vote after parliamentary action had been taken at our June meeting to reconsider that decision. To clarify that vote, last evening, July 11, at a duly noticed, regularly scheduled meeting of our Commission, at which a quorum was present, we rescinded the previous month's vote to reconsider. That motion passed by a vote of 7-0. Consequently, the Commission's May 9 opposition to the project clearly stands.

This project has caused deep concerns throughout our community. There is little debate over the fact that the building has fallen into disrepair -- even more so since the developer has taken title -- and requires attention. The question remaining is the best use of this now vacant facility. After hearing from scores of community residents, what is abundantly troubling and incongruous to the majority of the commissioners who voted against advancing this proposal is the that luxury condominiums will be built on a property that has for nearly a century provided a place of worship for generations of African Americans living in Southwest.

In view of the tremendous redevelopment efforts currently underway within our small community, and the consequent disruption to the historic social fabric that has ensued, ANC-6D believes that the incorporation of the Old Friendship Baptist Church building into development of luxury condominiums now envisioned ought to be rejected. I hope that the decision of ANC-6D will be given great weight as you pursue your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Andy Litsky,
Chairman, ANC-6D

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 03-30
EXHIBIT NO. 58