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Chairperson
Committee on
Public Works and The Environment

Voting Member
Board of Directors, Washington
Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

January 28, 2008

Chairman Anthony Hood
DC Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, N.W., Room 210S
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Chairman Hood:

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD) at 1444 Irving Street, N.W., Zoning Commission Case No. 07-02.

This project will provide a number of significant benefits to the Columbia Heights neighborhood and the District as a whole. In addition to providing temporary shelter for some of the District's most vulnerable residents, the proposed development will also provide new market-rate housing near the Columbia Heights Metrorail station.

The project will provide a number of benefits to the surrounding community and will further the policies and objectives set forth in the District's Comprehensive Plan. For example, although the proposed PUD is not subject to the District's inclusionary zoning program, twenty percent of the residential units will be set aside for households earning between fifty and eighty percent of the area median income.

There is also broad support from the community. In October 2004, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1A voted to preserve the neighborhood's shelter capacity by providing new facilities for the LaCasa Shelter. Then on January 9, 2008, the ANC unanimously supported the proposed PUD.

The proposed PUD is a truly exceptional project. I strongly encourage the Commission to take favorable action on the application.

Sincerely

JG/jy
Cc: Mr. Chris Donatelli

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 07-02
EXHIBIT NO. 26

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

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