



DC PRESERVATION LEAGUE

The mission of the DC Preservation League is to preserve, protect, and enhance the historic and built environment of Washington, DC, through advocacy and education.

January 22, 2008

Zoning Commission for the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Zoning Commission Case No. 07-18
10th & F Planned Unit Development

Edwin L. Fountain, Esq.
President

Dear Commissioners:

John Bellingham, FCIQB, AIC
Vice President

The DC Preservation League ("DCPL") writes to support the preservation component of the proposed commercial office and retail development at the southwest corner of 10th and F Streets, NW. DCPL is a non-profit corporation organized to act in the public interest to preserve, protect and enhance the historic and built environment of Washington, DC.

James A. Smailes, P.E.
Secretary

In 2007, DCPL joined with several other preservation groups to support a landmark application for the Waffle Shop at 522 10th Street, NW for listing in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places, to protect its historic and architectural attributes. After numerous discussions with the owner, Jemal's Up Against the Wall, LLC, the DC Historic Preservation Office and the other preservation groups, DCPL agreed that preservation of the Waffle Shop could be achieved by dismantling the historic building and relocating it to a site at 7th and K Streets, NW, in Square 450 or 451, or another site in that vicinity to be mutually agreed upon.

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While relocation of historic buildings is not the preferred means of preservation, it is sometimes necessary to balance the benefits of competing public interests. Like Almas Temple, Adas Israel Synagogue and other buildings in the District, the Waffle Shop will be successfully moved, while remaining in the downtown commercial district, so that it can continue to convey the architectural and historical significance we believe it possesses. More importantly, whereas historic preservation does not always guarantee that a building's original use will continue, in this case the developer has committed to operate the Waffle Shop as a waffle shop for at least 15 years. In these circumstances, DCPL endorses the plans of Jemal's Up Against the Wall to preserve, relocate and restore the Waffle Shop as part of this Planned Unit Development project.

Very truly yours,

Rebecca A. Miller
Executive Director

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Executive Director

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