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11/18/2010 12:03

Ralph Garboushian 1726 Potomac Avenue SE Washington DC 20003

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November 15, 2010

DC Zoning Commission Office of Zoning Hearing Room 441 4th Street NW - Suite 220 Washington DC 20001

VIA FAX: 202-727-6072

RE: <u>Support</u> for Case 08-06 - Parking (Comprehensive Zoning Regulations: Chapters B-15, B-16)

Dear Commissioners:

I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of changes to the comprehensive zoning regulations regarding vehicle and bicycle parking. I have lived in the District of Columbia for 16 years, the last 6 of them in a car-free household. I was attracted to the District because it is an easy place to live car-free or "car-lite." Indeed, our city's transit service, walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods, improving bicycle infrastructure, bicycle-sharing and car-sharing combine to make living car-free a logical choice.

I support the proposed parking regulations to largely remove parking minimum requirements and institute maximum limits. I also support establishing provisions for shared parking and requirements for car-sharing spaces. Regarding blcycle parking regulations, I strongly support instituting these regulations. Convenient, secure bicycle parking is an important part of encouraging more trips to be taken by bicycle. These provisions advance this goal.

Our region faces tremendous air quality, water quality, congestion and economic development challenges. Our nation faces serious national and economic security challenges. And our world faces the serious challenge of climate change. The root of many of these challenges are the policies of the past 60 years that have assumed that everyone will drive everywhere for everything. The implementation of these policies in the District of Columbia, including the imposition of parking policies better suited to a sprawling suburb circa 1965, have imposed great damage on the District and its neighborhoods. We can see that in the case of DC USA in Columbia Heights, the city wasted and continues to waste millions of public dollars paying for parking that no one

ZONING COMMISSION District of Columbia

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wants or uses. We need to learn our lesson from this costly mistake and protect transitrich neighborhoods from excessive parking and the traffic, air pollution and noise pollution it generates.

The walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods served by excellent transit that survived the catastrophic "motor vehicles above all else" policies of the second half of the last century remain one of the District's biggest strengths versus its immediate neighbors. These proposed regulations will build on other policies that are starting to reclaim the District from the failed policies of yesteryear. I urge you to adopt them.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Ralph Garboushian

Rialph Garbbushlan. 1706 Petomas Avenue SE Washington DC 20003.

Movember 15, 2010.

DC Zoning Commission Office at Johing Hearing Room. 441 35 Street WV - Suite 220 Washington DC 20001

VIA FAX: 202-727-6072

RE Support for Case 08.06 - Parking (Comprehensive Zoning Regulations Chapters 8-15 B 16)

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> ZONING COMMISSION District of Columbia

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Sincerely

Raigh Garboushian

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