



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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KWAME R. BROWN

Councilmember At-Large

Chair, Committee on Economic Development

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Finance and Revenue

Public Services and Consumer Affairs

Public Works and the Environment

Workforce Development and Government Operations

October 10, 2008

District of Columbia

Zoning Commission

441 4th St. NW

Suite 220

Washington, DC 20001

RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2008 OCT 15 AM 10:56

Re: Kelsey Gardens' PUD Application regarding the 1500 Block of 7th St, NW

Commission Members:

I have reviewed with great enthusiasm and support Metropolitan Development's PUD Application and request for zoning variances on the 1500 block of 7th Street, NW and the adjacent parking lot running along P Street to 8th Street, NW. I have heard that the Zoning Commission has approved the PUD Application for a public setdown hearing and wish to add my voice in what undoubtedly will be a very positive response by Kelsey Gardens' neighbors.

Metropolitan Development's proposal promises to bring to an end the unhappy history of the existing Kelsey Gardens site. The design also serves multiple public policy goals including a dramatic improvement of the standard of living for those tenants who qualify for the development's affordable housing. The fact that Metropolitan has committed to provide a 1-to-1 replacement of all existing affordable units as well as a right of first refusal for its prior tenants is a win-win for all involved. Moreover, the plan adds much needed retail in Ward 2 and will enliven the streetscape.

Metropolitan has committed to provide \$250,000 for much needed public amenities. It also has anticipated the need to minimize any impact on parking in the neighborhood by adding underground parking. The local residents will likewise benefit from Metropolitan's widening and improvement of the rear alley.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO.

08 14

EXHIBIT NO.

37

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO.08-14

EXHIBIT NO.37

I personally feel that this project is a beautiful, architecturally stimulating design that complements the historic Shaw neighborhood. So in summary, I am happy to lend my own vote of confidence in support of Metropolitan's PUD and Zoning Variance Application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kwame Brown', written over a horizontal line.

Councilmember Kwame Brown

CC: Brig Owens