

Matthew Wilshire & Laura Gonzales
3800 39th ST NW #B128
Washington DC 20016

Chairman Anthony Hood, DC Office of Zoning
441-4th Street NW, Suite 210S,
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Friendship-Macomb SC Inc. (Giant Foods) project, PUD case no. 08-15.

Esteemed Chairman:

We are writing to you in support of the Friendship-Macomb SC Inc. (Giant Foods) project, PUD case no. 08-15.

We have been residents of the District for more than 10 years. During that time, we have lived within walking distance to the existing Giant grocery store currently located at Wisconsin Ave. NW and Newark St. NW. We have been hearing of plans to update the Giant grocery store for many years, and we were excited to finally see concrete plans underway for not just a grocery store, but also for a mixed-use development. This was especially encouraging as the current facility is outdated, and many of the storefronts are vacant.

The current Giant grocery store is not only an eye-sore on Wisconsin Avenue, but it is not able to provide the level of service and merchandise that this neighborhood has come to expect due to its size. As residents of McLean Gardens, we are more likely to get in our car and drive to the Georgetown Safeway or Whole Foods. This is not particularly a convenient trip, and causes us to drive more than is absolutely necessary. A new development, such as the one proposed in PUD case no. 08-15, would not only encourage a thriving walking neighborhood, but would also encourage more people to drive less if they have access to a better grocery store. In addition, a new grocery store with mixed-use development will help raise the property values of not only my home, but my neighbors' homes as well. I also support the idea of housing in that area, as I strongly believe that we should be encouraging housing density. The fact that the developer is also promising that the construction will be built at LEED standards is also an indication to me that they are dedicated to this project, as it will surely cost more money.

A mixed-use development on Wisconsin Avenue will add a vibrant streetscape to an otherwise dying strip of land. This is a project that deserves the commission's approval.

Sincerely,


Matthew Wilshire & Laura Gonzales

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COMMISSION
of Columbia

08-15
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TO: DC Office of Zoning
Attn: Chairman Hood

202-727-6072

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