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February 5, 2009

RE: PUD Case #08-15

Dear Chairman Hood and Commissioner Members,

The officers of the Massachusetts Avenue Heights Citizens Association unanimously support rapid approval of the Giant PUD application. MAHCA members also overwhelmingly support this application, based on a door-to-door survey that showed over 95 percent support.

Giant is within ½ mile of our neighborhood and is our closest mid-priced supermarket. Our residents both walk and drive to the Giant and have done so for decades, although in the last several years the Giant's relatively limited choice of products has led to a search for alternatives, including Giant stores at Westbard, Van Ness and Friendship Heights.

We also believe that the concerns of immediately adjacent neighbors about traffic are likely unfounded. Over the past decade our neighborhood of 153 houses, after constructive discussions with developers, has been able to absorb the 45,000 square foot Whole Foods market just below Calvert Street on Wisconsin and the 60-unit Georgetown Heights condominium at Calvert and Wisconsin, with an overall beneficial impact. Careful, but reasonable, mitigation measures approved by the Zoning Commission led to these results.

As a result of these two projects, our neighborhood has new members who help to support our retail and community services such as the Guy Mason Recreation Center. The retail area surrounding the Whole Foods market has been reinvigorated.

We were apprehensive about new development, but a reasonable development plan made the projects good for the developers and the neighborhood. We expect that the same will be true for the Giant development, which can be a positive addition to the community that we live in.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Cunningham

President, Massachusetts Avenue Heights Citizens Association;
Resident, 2707 36th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20007

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO.

08-15

EXHIBIT NO.

132

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