

February 9, 2009

U.S. OFFICE OF ZONING

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

Re: PUD case no. 08-15 **PLEASE SUPPORT** THE GIANT FOODS PROJECT

Dear Chairman Hood,

For five years, I've had the pleasure of living on Wisconsin Avenue in the Cleveland Park neighborhood, practically across the street from the above-referenced Giant.

While it's wonderful to have a grocery store so close, the store itself is too small and old to serve the needs of today's community. What's more, much space is wasted on a large parking lot; and several other businesses, such as GC Murphy, have been closed for years. Thus, the current Giant complex is a vastly underutilized property.

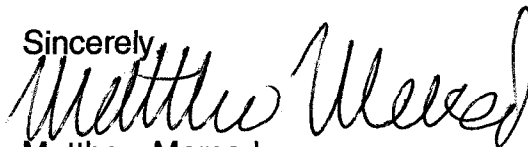
This means a huge chunk of tax revenue is lost for the city as residents get in their cars (burning unnecessary fuel) to spend their dollars in shops or on entertainment elsewhere.

In the 21st century, it's important for urban areas to grow in a smart way. How many people move to the city so they can ditch their cars and walk to services? I've reviewed the renovation plans and they're not only visually appealing, but fit right in with the neighborhood's character and 'smart growth' principles.

It's clear Giant has been a good neighbor, commissioning multiple studies to address neighbors' concerns about practical issues such as traffic. Any further opposition at this point is just a vocal minority being obstructionist.

The neighborhood has made it's decision: the ANC3 reps have **unanimously** approved the plans. I urge you, too, to support smart growth in Cleveland Park by expediting approval of the P.U.D.

Sincerely,



Matthew Merced
3315 Wisconsin Ave., NW #504
Washington, DC 20016

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 08-15
EXHIBIT NO. 147