

OFFICE OF ZONING  
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February 14, 2009

Hon. Anthony Hood, Chair  
District of Columbia Zoning Commission  
One Judiciary Square  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW 2<sup>nd</sup> fl.  
Washington, DC 20001

**Re: Wisconsin Ave. Giant Site**

Dear Chair Hood:

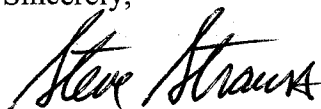
I write in support of the application before the Commission on Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> to rezone a portion of Wisconsin Ave. at Newark Street for the redevelopment of a large parcel of land currently occupied by a Giant supermarket.

The plan proposed by Giant would bring highly desirable redevelopment to Wisconsin Avenue, a large, commercial arterial street. The proposed scale of development is well within the size that Washingtonians could and should expect on a major transportation corridor. The western Cleveland Park area can certainly use the additional retail and commercial space and the supermarket clearly needs renewal.

Opponents mistakenly claim that this modest new investment in the District will create extraordinary traffic problems. The site is served by both the 96 crosstown bus route and several 30s series bus routes along Wisconsin Avenue. Denser development such as this project, located on corridors with decent transit service, will be of great benefit to car-free residents of the District like me. By focusing higher density development along transit corridors the District uses its development oversight to encourage more transit use and correspondingly more transit service. The Giant PUD will be more energy efficient and sustainable than lower density sprawl development in the District.

I hope the members of the Zoning Commission will approve the Giant site application for rezoning and permit only the smallest number of parking spaces necessary to meet 95% of the peak demand. 535 parking spaces are more than sufficient. If you build them, they will drive.

Sincerely,



Steve Strauss

cc: Hon. Mary Cheh

ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO. CE-15  
EXHIBIT NO. 151