



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

MARY M. CHEH

Councilmember, Ward 3
Chair, Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs

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November 10, 2008

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

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Dear Mr. Hood:

I write to express my strong support for the proposed Wisconsin Avenue Giant Development Project.

It has long been my position that both the District and specifically Ward 3 are in need of smart growth—denser development along the major transit corridors that results in bustling and energetic retail corridors. Giant's proposed development plan achieves precisely these goals.

East Cleveland Park is defined by a robust community and commercial center along Connecticut Avenue. The community is drawn together by both civic institutions, such as the Cleveland Park Library, and commercial venues, such as the numerous restaurants and retail establishments. West Cleveland Park, by contrast, is defined by an aged and cramped grocer and empty storefronts along Wisconsin Avenue. To be sure, important local businesses exist in the area—2 Amy's, Cactus Cantina, and Sullivan's Toys, for example. But these few bright spots fail to achieve the critical mass of venues necessary to form a community nexus. Giant's proposal will help remedy these ills, and it is incumbent on us to seize the opportunity to provide the community with the development and amenities needed to remain vibrant.

First and foremost, the proposed development includes a renovated and enlarged grocery store—the grocer that Cleveland Park both requires and deserves. Second, the project will provide retail venues that are attractive to businesses, with dedicated space for current local enterprises. And third, the project incorporates needed affordable housing in an area with very few such units and sited on a major transit line.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

NO. 08-15

EXHIBIT NO. 24

When considering the development of our city, it is important that we know where to grow and where not to. The current proposal offers growth precisely where it is needed and will serve to infuse verve and vitality into an area currently afflicted by decay and decline.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary M. Cheh', with a stylized, flowing script.

Mary M. Cheh
Councilmember, Ward 3

CC: Adrian Fenty, Mayor, District of Columbia
Neil Albert, Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development
Harriet Tregoning, Director for Office of Planning
George Idelson, President of the Cleveland Park Citizens Association
Lee Brian Reba, ANC 3C-01
Gloria Day, ANC 3C-02
Stephanie Zobay, ANC 3C-03
Josh Hart, ANC 3C-04
R. Beckner, ANC 3C-05
Trudy Reeves, ANC 3C-06
Richard Rothblum, ANC 3C-07
Catherine May, ANC 3C-08
Nancy MacWood, ANC 3C-09