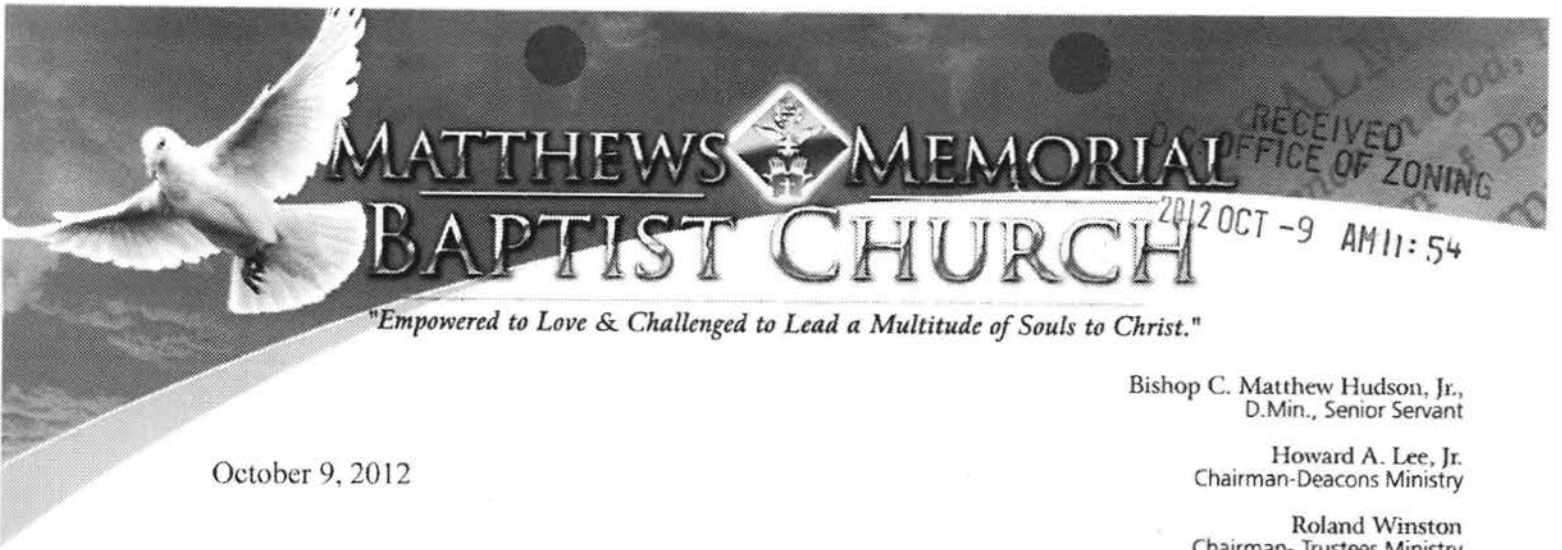




MATTHEWS MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

"Empowered to Love & Challenged to Lead a Multitude of Souls to Christ."

October 9, 2012

Mr. Anthony Hood, Chairman
Zoning Commission
441 4th Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20004

Bishop C. Matthew Hudson, Jr.,
D.Min., Senior Servant

Howard A. Lee, Jr.
Chairman-Deacons Ministry

Roland Winston
Chairman- Trustees Ministry

Susie M. Everett-Horton
Executive Church Administrator

Greetings! I am writing this letter in support of the approval of the zoning for the St. Elizabeth's East Campus Master Plan (St. Es).

In addition to serving as the Senior Pastor of the Matthews Memorial Baptist Church, I am the principal owner and President of Creative Opportunity Ventures Inc. (COVI), a Certified Business Enterprise (CBE), located at 2616 Martin Luther King, Jr., Ave. SE. The approval of the proposed zoning for St. Es will allow the District of Columbia's offices of the Deputy Mayor of Planning and Economic Development and the Office of Planning to expeditiously move forward with the various phases of this approximately 4.2 million square feet of development located in center of Ward 8.

Earlier this year, COVI completed the \$22.5 million Matthews Memorial Terrace Apartments, which provides low income tax credit housing for 99 working families and senior citizens, located just north of the St. Es site in Ward 8. Our excitement surrounding the St. Es project is grounded in the idea of the community remaining engaged and benefiting from the training, jobs and business opportunities that will ultimately be created.

In closing, we believe that with the Board of Zoning Adjustment's, modifications and continued commitment of Mayor Vincent Gray and his team, the St. Es project will have a catalytic impact on current and future development and residents in Ward 8 and the District of Columbia as a whole.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

C. Matthew Hudson, Jr., D.Min.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO.

12-08

EXHIBIT NO.

15