DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

BENJAMIN BONHAM
WARD 6 REPRESENTATIVE
825 NORTH CAPITOL ST., NE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002
(202) 442-4289, FAX 442-5198

Rec'd.
FEB 16 2000

February 16, 2000

Members
Board of Zoning Adjustments
One Judiciary Square, Suite # 200
Washington, DC

Dear Members:

Please allow Mrs. Thema Jones to read my letter for the record in the matter of KASS MA, L.L.C., KSI application number 16457.

Sincerely,

BZA
Case No. 16457
Exhibit No. 106

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16457
EXHIBIT NO.106

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February 16, 2000

Members
Board of Zoning Adjustments
One Judiciary Square, Suite # 200
Washington, DC

Dear Members:

I represent ward six on the DC Board of Education and would like to express my opposition to the building of multi-family homes under application number 16457 by KASS MA, L.L.C., KSI. However, I do support the development of single-family homes were the multi-family homes are currently plan to be builded.

This plot of land is mostly located in ward eight with approximately one quarter to one third located in ward six. Before the 1990 census all of the land was located in ward six. Because the boundary is redrawn every 10 years if the census determine it is necessary to bring equity to each ward. This boundary change could every well place the plot of land back in ward six once the 2000 census is completed.

No matter what the circumstances are the children from the development will attend Ketcham elementary, Kramer middle and Anacostia high schools all located in ward six.

The development will be located on the upper end of Good Hope road while all three school are located on the lower end of Good Hope road. Good Hope road is currently a traffic hazard for many of our students especially during the morning rush hour when traffic congestion runs the entire length of road. With no future plans for road expansion, space for expansion being limited at best and limited alternative routes. If the alternative routes are taken it creates a bigger problem because traffic which normally use the main route Good Hope road will flood residential streets. I truly have a concern regarding the safety of our children if apartments are developed.

A negative stigma has plagued Anacostia long enough. There are a large number of vacate and abandon apartment buildings in the area. I strongly suggest revitalization of current apartment sites and begin to help stabilize our community. Building single-family homes will greatly assist in accomplishing the goals we have for our community.

Schools east of the river are the DC Public Schools most populated. The development of apartments by KSI can negatively impact the learning environment at the three Schools in ward six. Reports have shown that smaller class size have fostered a better learning environment for students. Limited space and financial resources to build new schools will compound the problems the school system has in improving these schools. These schools are already targeted as special assistant schools. Target assistant schools are schools that are performing at a level or levels behind other schools across the city.

Because of the reasons stated I oppose the development of apartment by KSI on the application number 16457 site.

Sincerely,

