COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

(202) 724-8052

CHARLENE DREW JARVIS
Councilmember - Ward 4
Chairperson
Committee on
Economic Development

February 14, 2000

Committee Member
Finance & Revenue
Government Operations

OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
00 FEB 16 P 3:02

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid, Chairperson
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441- 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Reid & Board Members:

I am writing on behalf of Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 4C, the 16th Street Neighborhood Association, and residents regarding application 16550 pending before the Board of Zoning Adjustment concerning a development in an alley surrounded by the 1400 blocks of Webster and Varnum Streets, and the 3800 blocks of 14th, and 15th Streets, NW. On Saturday, February 12th my staff and I conducted a walk-thru with residents to observe the site where 10 single family frame homes have been proposed.

My constituents oppose this development. ANC- 4C has adopted a resolution expressing opposition to the development. Residents believe the proposed development would bring incompatible housing to the neighborhood and exceed the number of available parking spaces. In addition, construction and development in the alley would impair access to the alley by residents, emergency vehicles and by delivery trucks.

As an alternative, residents are interested in the D.C. government's acquiring the property for use as community gardens which could be leased back to residents. I have asked the Office of Planning and the D.C. Department of Recreation to determine the feasibility of this suggested land use. I strongly urge that the Board consider the impact on the community of such a development and give great weight to the opposition of the ANC and the concerns raised by residents. As the Ward 4 Representative to the Council and Chair of the Committee on Economic Development, I strongly support economic growth. However, the interests of residents must be respected. I ask that you deny the variance before you in case 16550.

Sincerely,

Charlene Drew Jarvis

Charlene Drew Jarvis
Councilmember, Ward 4

cc: Robert Newman, Director
Department of Recreation & Parks
16th Street Neighborhood Association
ANC 4C

BZA
Case No. 16550
Exhibit No. 43

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16550
EXHIBIT NO.43