1909 19th St., NW, #204
Washington, DC 20009
March 5, 2000

OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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Ms. Sheila Reid
Chair, Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth St., NW, Suite 220
Washington, DC 20001
Re: Application no. 16556

Dear Ms. Reid:

I am writing to urge you to approve the application of the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital (JPDS-NC) for temporary occupancy at 7701 and 7712 16th St., NW, the sites of Tifereth Israel and Ohev Sholom synagogues. I have been a resident, registered voter, and taxpayer in the District of Columbia since 1971 ,and have watched the development, expansion, and renovation of many neighborhoods, businesses, and schools throughout the city. Now, as a parent of a kindergarten student, I am concerned about the city's access to educational institutions that serve a broad spectrum of current and potential residents in our fine city.

As the only Jewish day school in D.C., JPDS-NC is an essential component in the city's school base to ensure that Jewish (and non-Jewish) families have access to a day school offering a religious and secular educational environment. A favorable and expedited decision by the Board will ensure that the school makes a smooth transition to its temporary site and opens in September 2000 without causing undue hardship for its students.

JPDS-NC is working diligently with the Shepherd Park neighborhood to address and alleviate all concerns regarding traffic, noise, and safety. These issues can be worked out fairly for all concerned, with many added benefits accruing to the neighborhood in this transition time.

It is not only a Jewish day school that is in danger at this time. More important, the future socioeconomic well-being of the city is also jeopardized. The city is the ultimate benefactor of the contributions that emerge from the values, service, and community commitment embodied by the school.

I appreciate your kind attention to these issues and thank you for your help in working toward a favorable end. Best regards.

Sincerely,

Elaine Rubin

Elaine Rubin

Cc: Council member Charlene Drew Jarvis
Council members at large
Andrew Altman, Office of Planning

BZA
Case No.
Exhibit No. 197

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16556
EXHIBIT NO.197