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

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 approval of 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 1989. As a parent of a kindergarten student, I am concerned about the city's educational institutions and the resources the city can offer to ensure that a broad spectrum of people continues to maintain residence in the city.

As the only Jewish day school in D.C., JPDS-NC provides residents access to a school offering a Jewish religious and secular educational environment and thus adds a valuable educational dimension to the city's other fine schools. One half of the current families of students enrolled in the school are residents of the city. A favorable and expedited decision by the Board is required to ensure that the school makes a smooth transition to its temporary site and is ready to open for September 2000 without causing undue hardship to its students.

JPDS-NC is committed to working with the Shepherd Park neighborhood to ensure safety and alleviate any undue impact from traffic and noise. Community relations are an utmost priority for the school, which ultimately will offer many benefits to the neighborhood in this transition time.

The breadth of educational opportunities for district residents is diminished greatly without JPDS-NC, an institution that can help the city prosper and thrive for the future. I appreciate your fair assessment of these issues and thank you for your help in working toward a favorable end. Best regards.

Sincerely,

James T. Sprowls

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

BZA
Case No.
Exhibit No. 198

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16556
EXHIBIT NO.198