COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF ZONING
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September 18, 2000

Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street NW Suite 210
Washington DC 20001

Re: BZA Case No. 16596; Avalon Bay Communities, Inc.
Variance for High-Rise Apartment Building at 770 5th Street NW

Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment:

The purpose of this letter is to convey my strong support for Avalon Bay's Communities' high-rise residential project at 770 5th Street NW. The project is well designed and the proposed residential use fulfills long-standing housing goals for the Downtown.

As the first nonsubsidized, new housing development in the Downtown, the project signals a major turnaround in the Downtown housing market. The developer is seeking minor adjustments in the applicable zoning; which will not diminish the value of the project to the City and are warranted under the circumstances. In my view, the City should approve this zoning flexibility so that the project may proceed as quickly as possible. The project will substantially contribute to the revitalization of Chinatown and will extend the Downtown residential community beyond the Penn Quarter area into the northeast quadrant of the Downtown where, hopefully, it can spur additional residential development.

I urge the Board of Zoning Adjustment to act favorably on the application, thereby facilitating a successful project and an expeditious delivery of the proposed 209 new housing units in the Downtown.

Sincerely,

Sharon Ambrose

Sharon Ambrose
Councilmember Ward 6

BZA
Case No. 16596
Exhibit No. 35

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16596
EXHIBIT NO.35