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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Room 210-S
Washington, DC 20001

Ref: B2A Application No. 16630

Good Afternoon, Commissioner Kress:

My name is Addie Cooke. I am Chair of the Ward 8 Mini-Commission on Aging, President of the Fort Stanton Civic Association, a senior citizen, a homeowner, and a longtime resident of Ward 8.

As Chair of the Mini-Commission, my role is to promote and encourage efforts which best serve the needs of the underserved seniors of Ward 8.

As President of the Fort Stanton Civic Association, my role is to encourage all residents of the Fort Stanton community to become active participants in the affairs of the District, both political and civic. It so happens that the majority of the Fort Stanton Association are now senior citizens.

As a President and Chair, I take responsibility for promoting what is right and proper for the citizens of the District, especially for seniors who may be partially immobilized and unable to travel across the city for the type of programs and services the wellness center will offer in their own ward.

On October 8, 1999, Mayor Anthony A. Williams, members of the Commission on Aging, and the DC Office on Aging held a groundbreaking ceremony for the senior wellness and fitness center. Numerous community residents witnessed this historic event and welcomed it.

Commissioner Kress, we have spent many months and countless meetings to reach this point in the process. To change now would be disastrous and ill meaning for the many senior citizens who have given so much to the District of Columbia, our community.

BZA
Case No. 16630
Exhibit No. 33

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16630
EXHIBIT NO.33

For the above-stated reasons, I support the special exception allowing the proposed construction of the Ward 8 Senior Wellness and Fitness Center for more than 16 in a R-4 district, located at 3500 Martin Luther King Jr., Avenue, SE.

Thank you for allowing my testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Addie Cooke

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Chair, Ward 8 Mini-Commission on Aging