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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

March 13, 2001

The Honorable J. Carter Brown
Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts
441 F Street, N.W., Suite 312
Washington, D.C. 20001

BZA 16702

Re: OG# 01-90
Millennium Georgetown Partners

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Citizens Association of Georgetown has carefully reviewed the amended plans for the buildings at the Incinerator Site in Georgetown. We are aware of the tremendous amount of work that the Old Georgetown Board and the Commission of Fine Arts have exerted over many months to bring the best possible design to this challenging site. Inasmuch as the CAG board had not met at the time the Old Georgetown Board reviewed the amended design at its March meeting, we ask that the full Commission consider the CAG board's strong objections to a key design element.

The vista down Wisconsin Avenue to the waterfront is one of the most important in Georgetown, recognized as such by the Comprehensive Plan and in rules formulated by the Zoning Commission, which sought to keep new developments in the W-1 District to a height of forty feet.

The amended building design now before the Commission rises to ninety feet (plus the penthouse). We find this unacceptable, and ask the Commission to return the project to the Board for further work. If the design can be altered so that the massing of the additional footage is set back as far as possible from the building's corners at Wisconsin Avenue and at 31st Street, it may be possible to allow the applicant to complete the project with additional marketable space as he wishes without imposing a very objectionable condition on the community.

While we understand the Board's desire to protect the site views to the incinerator stack, these streetscape vistas are of far greater concern

BZA Case No. 16702 Exhibit No. 35 Copy

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16702
EXHIBIT NO.35

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to the community. Please contact me if there is any additional information that would be of assistance. We are planning to be present at your March 15 meeting to make our case orally and to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Barbara B Downs

Barbara B. Downs
President