The Downtown Cluster of Congregations

1313 New York Avenue, N.W. ■ Washington, D.C. 20005 ■ (202) 347-7015 ■ Fax (202) 393-3705

Feb. 6, 2002

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for **City Gate's proposed use** of **5917 16th Street, N.W.**

I wish to speak to the character, integrity, and community responsiveness of its Executive Director, Rev. Lynn Bergfalk. I got to know Rev. Bergfalk in his capacity as Pastor at Calvary Baptist Church. I always found him to be responsive to community concerns, and deeply committed to meeting needs presented to his church from groups across the city. He particularly provided aid to the most needy groups, and to youth. As well, he was a strong proponent of a "Living Downtown", often seeking to strengthen the livability of the downtown neighborhood.

I believe that the uses proposed by **City Gate** for the site at 5917 16th Street are actually less intensive than had previously operated there under the St. Luke's Serbian Orthodox Church. The parking need presented by **City Gate** program and staff participants should be less overall than necessitated by the prior use.

Clearly, there are great demands in the community for the services being offered by City Gate - tutoring programs for children and ESL classes.

I am hopeful that **City Gate** can operate at the site, and am confident that they would do so in a manner most respectful of the residential character of the neighborhood. I am certain that **City Gate** would welcome community involvement and input, and would act quickly in addressing any concerns that may be presented. In short, I am certain City Gate would prove itself to be a most responsible and good neighbor. I can be reached at (202) 347-7015 should you need further input. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Terrance Lynch
Executive Director.

BZA
Case No. 16826
Exhibit No. 35

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16826
EXHIBIT NO.35