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Chair,
Human Rights, Latino Affairs &
Property Management Subcommittee

2nd Vice Chair,
Board of Directors, WMATA/Metro

April 9, 2002

Mr. Geoffrey H. Griffis, Chairman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
Room 210
441 4th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

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RE: BZA Application Number 16858

Dear Mr. Griffis:

As the Councilmember for Ward One, where the proposed DC USA retail and entertainment complex will be located, I support the request for a special exception to reduce by 25 percent the number of parking spaces the developer of the site would otherwise be required to provide under the Zoning Regulations. Approval of the request will not result in an adverse effect on the neighboring properties in the community and will aid significantly in our attempts to revitalize this important area of the city.

A 25% reduction in the required number of parking spaces is appropriate because the proposed development will serve a densely populated area with high pedestrian and transit accessibility to the site. The uses proposed are designed to serve the nearby community--other communities farther away will be served by the Columbia Heights Metrorail station and other public transportation. Based upon these factors, the developer's traffic study indicates that a maximum of 1,243 parking spaces, are needed for this project, 567 fewer than the 1,810 that are required under the regulations.

I therefore urge your approval of the project.

Sincerely,

Jim Graham

JG/db

BZA
Case No. 16858
Exhibit No. 22

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16858
EXHIBIT NO.22