GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

16859

CAROLYN N. GRAHAM
Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth and Families

April 16, 2002

VIA FACSIMILE: (202) 727-6072

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

Dear Mr. Griffis:

I am pleased to express my official endorsement for the construction of the District of Columbia's new Youth Services Center, which will be overseen and operated by the Department of Human Services, Youth Services Administration. The Center will be an 80-bed, 105,000 square foot diagnostic facility, consisting of three components: a Youth Detention Center, a Police Processing Center, and a Community Service Unit. The construction of this facility will bring us closer to the vision for juvenile justice reform advanced in the recent *Final Report of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Youth Safety and Juvenile Justice Reform* and ensure that high quality services are available for pre-adjudicated and detained youth.

Local and federal officials, as well as numerous private sector partners, are working together to collaborate services within the Center, which is designed to be a state-of-the-art operation utilizing a community-based service delivery system. The strategic plan for the development of this capital project demonstrates sound financial management, leveraging of public and private resources, and the overall effectiveness of government service through public/private partnerships.

Again, this new Center represents an critical dimension of our efforts to effectively serve the youth of the District and provide services, close to home, that will help ensure they receive all of the attention and services necessary to lead to better, more productive outcomes for their future. I welcome your support in achieving this important goal

Sincerely,

Carolyn N. Graham
Deputy Mayor for
Children, Youth, Families, and Elders

BZA
Case No. 16859
Exhibit No. 37

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16859
EXHIBIT NO.37