BZA
Case No. 16901
Exhibit No. 25

Paige Van Wirt MD, MUP
Tim Shannon
914 T ST NW
Washington DC 20001
(202) 232-5567

RE: Parking lot application Vermont / T

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D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2012 JUL 11 PM 2:11

Mr Geoffrey Griffis
Chairman, Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th ST NW Suite 210 S
Washington DC 20001

16901

Dear Mr. Griffis

My husband and I are writing to strongly urge that the Board of Zoning Adjustment NOT approve the application for the 9 space addition to the current parking lot operated by the most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, as well as the application to legally operate their current lot.

As a former urban planner for the city of New York, I'm very aware of the burden a facility such as this parking lot places on a residential neighborhood. I walk my dog along the sidewalk of the parking lot two times every day, and not only is the facility inappropriate in its current use, it prevents further development of that parcel for residential use.

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
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The lodge has not met any of the requirements for zoning variances as I understand them, and allowing the lodge to continue to use the lot even <u>with</u> the required screening conditions would only render a lot which is unstaffed during the day and would provide a refuge for transients who have been problematic in our area.

The current zoning is R4 and we feel strongly that the lot should be used for residential use only. It will help knit the challenged block of former 10th Street as it approaches the African American Civil War memorial, providing a safer (ie populated) and fitting streetscape for such an important monument for our city. As you well know, these type of zoning variance decisions are what determine the character of a neighborhood and its success as a healthy community. Please help our neighborhood become healthy again by voting No on both zoning variance requests by the Lodge.

Sincerely, Paige Van Hart MD

CC: neighborhood Stabilization Project
P.O. Box 73784
Washington DC 20056