CHAMPS

Capitol Hill Association of Merchants and Professionals

October 21, 2002

National Association of Realtors
Martin Edwards, President

Scale, Place and Charm. These three words summarize the grandeur and glory of the building already approved to be constructed on the site of 500 New Jersey Avenue, NW here in our Nation's Capital - but I am getting ahead of myself. I am writing you this letter because I know this project and its history perhaps better than any other individual in the industry, community or city. I am further writing this letter not as a Realtor® but rather as a respected broker, award-winning developer, concerned citizen and as a representative of an immediate business community association.

Location, location, location. Please try and understand these attributes as they relate to the historical nature and architectural fabric of our Federal city. The city of Washington, DC is not Miami, Los Angeles or Chicago with its towering structures and new millennium edifices. The context of your proposed project must be viewed as such and will truly exceed the geographic, historical and political import of its presence here.

The Capitol Hill Association of Merchants and professionals (CHAMPS) continues to endorse the project design of Jay John Hellman, PhD/WDG Architects that was unanimously and enthusiastically approved by the BZA July 24, 2001. We believe that the merits of the already approved project support both the Realtor® Mission and the Plan of Pierre L'Enfant for our fair city and we hope you do too.

Anything less would be an historical travesty and an inappropriate juxtaposition of aesthetics to our neighborhood. We thank you for your time and attention.

Respectfully yours,

Harry Schnipper

Harry Schnipper, Chair
Economic Development Committee

BZA
Case No. 16930
Exhibit No. 83

Cc: Board of Zoning Adjustment
Jay John Hellman, Ph.D.

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Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16930
EXHIBIT NO.83