CITIWIDE COMPUTER TRAINING CENTER
"Training Tomorrow's Workforce Today"

Web Site: http://www.mycitiwide.com Tel: 202-667-3719 Fax: 202-667-0554 E-mail: info@mycitiwide.com

RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2003 JAN -9 PM 12:1

Testimony Presented Before The Board of Zoning Adjustment Of The District Of Columbia At 441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 220, Washington, DC 20001

APPLICATION #BZA 16961

4.C. A detailed statement of existing and intended use of the space.

Previous use of Suite AG-32

AG-32 was previously two units now merged into one big suite. The space was previously used by a day care center. The suite has windows, air conditioning, toilet, kitchen and refrigerators. The lighting system is adequate and the space is well ventilated.

Intended Use of Suite AG-32

Citiwide Computer Training Center intends to use Suite AG-32 to provide job training and easy access to computer skills and employment opportunities for low-income residents of the District of Columbia.

Citiwide's target population includes adults who are unemployed or underemployed, as well as low-income adults who wish to gain the technical skills that are required for advancement in their current careers.

This space is designed to accommodate at least 25-30 adults at one time.

Previous Use of Suite BG-41

Suite BG-41 was previously a residential accommodation, which was converted into a business unit by the Owner. The space is on the business level (ground floor) and has windows and a toilet. It is properly ventilated and air-conditioned. The lighting system is also very adequate.

Intended Use of Suite BG-41

Citiwide Computer Training Center intends to use Suite BG-41 to provide job training and easy access to computer skills and employment opportunities for low-income residents of the District of Columbia.

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16961
EXHIBIT NO.26

Case No. 16961
Exhibit No. 26

Web Site: http://www.mycitiwide.com Tel: 202-667-3719 Fax: 202-667-0554 E-mail: info@mycitiwide.com

Citiwide's target population includes adults who are unemployed or underemployed, as well as low-income adults who wish to gain the technical skills that are required for advancement in their current careers.

This space is designed to accommodate at least 10-15 adults at one time.

4.D. A detailed statement explaining how the application meets the specific tests identified in the Zoning Regulations.

Subsection 3104.1

CitiWide Computer Training Center exists to provide the best Technology/educational programs to low-income families, using computer technology as a tool. We bridge the digital divide.... That's our mission.

The special exception requested by Citiwide Computer Training Center is consistent with the general intent and purpose of the Zoning Regulations and Map. Citiwide Computer Training Center provides job training to unemployed and low-income District residents, many of whom experience barriers to access in computer technology and basic education. Our program will improve the social and economic status of our clients. The site is located in a major thoroughfare on 16th Street, N.W. There is a metro stop right in front of the building thereby making transportation accessibility easier for our clients. Two major Bus lines (S2 and S4) run through the 16th Street, from Federal Triangle to Silver Spring. Three blocks away from 3636 16th Street, NW is the Metro Green Line to Gallery Place. Additionally, the building has given Citiwide Computer Training Center permission to validate tickets of students who would use the parking garage located in the basement of the building. The garage can accommodate over 100 cars at one time. By locating the training center in this neighborhood, Citiwide is better able to serve its clients.

Allowing the use will not adversely affect use of the neighboring property. There will be no changes in noise or lighting in or around the property.

Section 334 – Community Service Centers

Citiwide Computer Training Center qualifies as a Community Service Center under Section 334. Citiwide was established as a nonprofit organization in April 1993. We have our IRS tax exemption status. See attachment **(See attachment A).**

Web Site: http://www.mycitiwide.com Tel: 202-667-3719 Fax: 202-667-0554 E-mail: info@mycitiwide.com

Subsection 334.1

The purpose of Citiwide Computer Training Center is to improve the social and economic well being of neighborhood residents through job and skills training. Citiwide is a 501 (c)(3) organization incorporated in 1993, in the District of Columbia.

Since its incorporation in April 1993, Citiwide Computer Training Center has provided more than 1500 adults and children with basic education services, GED assistance and technical training using a unique computer-based approach. Our community-based technology-training center supplies adults and children with the skills they need to succeed at work, in school, and in life.

Over the years, Citiwide has received various grants from local and regional agencies, including the United Planning Organization, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Department of Human Services (IMA), and the District of Columbia Department of Recreation and Parks. We are also a service provider with the DC Department of Employment Services.

Citiwide Computer Training Center has community support. We have attached numerous signatories and letters of support from location community organizations we have worked with over the years. The Ward 1 Council Member (Jim Graham) is well aware of our program and has given his support for this application and other activities CitiWide provide to the community. Several students have also given their support letters all of which are attached as **(Attachment B).**

CitiWide has received numerous awards as follows:

- 1997 United Planning Organization (UPO) – Community Youth in Action Award;
- 1999 UPO Outstanding Service and Commitment To The Youth of the District of Columbia Award;
- 2001 The Julia West Hamilton League, Inc. Community Service Award;
- 2002 Department of Human Services (DHS)-(IMA) Outstanding Contribution in Helping Low-Income Families Become Self-Sufficient Award;
- 2001-2002 DHS (IMA) Excellence in Project Management Award.

Note: Please see Award from DHS(IMA) enclosed as **Attachment C**. The above awards were presented in plague form and could not be presented here for your perusal.

Clearly, Citiwide has a track record of providing successful training programs for District residents. We are committed to providing the highest level of service possible to improve the lives of our neighbors.

Subsection 334.2

Citiwide Computer Training Center will not become objectionable to neighboring properties because of noise or other objectionable conditions. Suite BG-41 is located on the ground floor of the Woodner Building in an area that is dominated by retail establishments. Suite AG-32 is also located on the ground floor and is surrounded by offices and businesses.

Subsection 334.3

No structural changes are planned. Both suites already have windows, air conditioning, toilets, kitchens and refrigerators. The lighting and electrical systems are adequate and the spaces are well ventilated.

Subsection 334.4

The use is reasonably necessary and convenient to the neighborhood in which it is located. Citiwide Computer Training Center provides job training to unemployed and other low-income District residents, many of whom experience barriers in gaining access to quality computer technology training and educational advancements. Many of our students live and work in the area where the center is located. In addition, the Woodner Building is located on the S-2 and S-4 bus lines and Citiwide provides validated parking in the Woodner's underground garage.

Subsection 334.5

Citiwide Computer Training Center is a 501(c)(3) organization.