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Human Rights, Asian/P.I. & Latino
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Subcommittee

Voting Member
Board of Directors, Washington
Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

February 5, 2004

Hon. Geoffrey Griffis, Chairperson
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW – Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

RE: BZA Application No. 1711
2412 17th Street, NW

Dear Chairperson Griffis:

This letter is submitted in support of Joseph Kisha's application for variance relief to allow renovations to a small vacant apartment house known as the Wilson Building located at 2412 17th Street, N.W. in an R-5-B District. The above referenced application is in my Ward. I am familiar with the property and the developer. I have also reviewed the application and strongly support your approval of this redevelopment plan and the necessary variances.

The property has been primarily vacant (except for Mr. Kisha and a security guard) for a good number of years. The planned redevelopment will be an enhancement to the existing building, restore needed housing units to the neighborhood and be an asset to the community. The restoration of these housing units will also assist in achieving the Mayor's goal of attracting more residents to DC. In addition, the design has been modified to include balconies, which have been an effective means of reducing street crime due to the visual surveillance by the residents.

The variances the developer is seeking are justified in this case and will not have a detrimental effect on the neighborhood, but rather will enhance the community.

I strongly urge you to approve this application and I thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Graham

BZA
Case No. 17111
Exhibit No. 30

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17111
EXHIBIT NO. 30