March 28, 2004

Government of the District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment
Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA, Director
441 Fourth Street, N.W.
Suite 220 South
Washington, DC 20001

Reference: CASE Number 17163

To the Honorable Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA:
I am writing to you concerning an application you have received for a special exemption for **Amazing Life Games Pre-School, Inc.**, to be located at 1309 Farragut Street, N.W. I am the owner of a neighboring home, located at 1314 Farragut Street, N.W. I would like to file in **opposition** to the approval of this application.

In my block, we currently live with an elementary school (West Elementary) which is physically located on Gallatin Street, but is housed between the two streets, with the schools parking lot directly across the street from my home; a church located at 1318 Farragut; a community center (Y.O.U.R. Community Center) on the corner of 14th and Farragut; the Kingsbury Center which is also located at 14th and Farragut; as well as 5 other rather large churches within a 3 block radius, an unbelievable amount of nonprofits and multiple private schools (some rather large). I estimate that these facilities bring into the neighborhood, an additional thousand of non-residents daily. On one day, I counted 27 schools buses on my block. My street is at times is used for a short cut with buses and parent's alike driving between 14th and 13th at undesirable speeds.

I purchased my home 6 years ago for the modest price of $150K. It was in my ideal home- in my ideal neighborhood; a perfect location for my job; good schools for my family; strategically located to all the things that are important to my quality of life. It was economical; in a professional environment; a great blend of what D.C at its best has to offer; and a very reasonable tax base. Vast changes have happened in these few years. Prices have surged in my neighborhood. What were single family residents are being purchased by organizations-mostly non-profits and removing not only a valuable tax base which the city desperately needs but also removing the value of a community. The homes are not occupied-by families-they have no normal daily activities, they attract crimes (petty and otherwise), use valuable parking spaces and increase the flow of traffic. Unfortunately, the city to offset the lost in the tax base (churches and non profits don't pay property tax) have passed the burden on to the residents.

I have personally spoken with several of the parents involved in Amazing Life Games, Pre-School, some of the employees and reviewed their literature. It sounds as though they have a great facility. However, I do believe that the approval of this exemption would add an unnecessary burden on our street and our community. I feel that we have

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lost enough homes and can not afford to lose anymore tax paying residents. I am not a "Not in my back yard," person, however, I know that other neighborhoods in this city do not have to grapple with as many businesses as my neighborhood. We all need to have a fair blend of business, nonprofit organizations, etc., in all neighborhoods, but there needs to be a balance and not unfairly placed into one community. What ever happened to the "Enterprise Zones," where businesses would be encouraged to move into certain communities with excellent incentive benefits? Please help my neighborhood remain one in which residents can call home and not simply a place of business.

I thank you for your time and your consideration.

Best regards,

Angie Moore, CPA
1314 Farragut Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011