May 17, 2004

1312 Farragut St. NW
Washington, DC 20011

Office of Councilmember Adrian Fenty
Ward 4
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 506
Washington, DC 20004

Reference: Case Number 17163

To the Honorable Councilman Fenty:

I am writing to request your support in opposing a special exception variance application made by the **Amazing Life Games Pre-School, Inc.,** to open a child development center at 1309 Farragut Street, NW I am the owner of a neighboring home, located at 1312 Farragut Street, NW and have lived at this residence for over 50 years.

Over the years, I have watched the 1300 block of Farragut Street gradually change from what was once a beautiful residential street to what it is now, a mixture of residential homes and non-profit institutions. Currently, on Farragut, we have West Elementary School, located at 14th & Farragut. Directly across the street from West, is Y.O.U.R. Community Center. In the middle of the block, there is a church located at 1318 Farragut and at 13th and Farragut St. we have still another church, Marantha Fellowship. In addition to these non-profits that physically touch Farragut St., we are further impacted by the Kingsbury Center which is also located at 14th and Farragut; as well as other churches and schools that are within a 3 block radius. As a result of these facilities, the daily traffic on our street is overwhelming. Not only do we have to contend with the cars and buses dropping off and picking up schoolchildren, but our street is also used as a thoroughfare for commuters making their way between 13th and 14th streets. As a senior citizen who enjoys taking morning walks, I have to really be careful of when and where I schedule my walks because of the on-slaught of traffic speeding through our neighborhood. If this variance is granted to Amazing Life Games Pre-School, our tiny street will be open to more traffic, parking problems, noise and other nuisances.

The 1300 block of Farragut Street has a wonderful mixture of residents who love their community, take care of their property, and respect their neighbors. To ask us to accept a child development center placed in the **middle** of what is left of residential homes is unfair. In a meeting held at the 1309 Farragut St. property on January 23, 2004 between the residents of Farragut St. and the Amazing Life Games Pre-School, the school officials

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were asked what benefits they could bring to the block. They could not come up with a single thing that would add value as a result of their move to Farragut Street.

I hope that I have adequately expressed my concerns regarding this issue and that you will support our efforts in defeating this special variance request. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Berniece McConnell

(Mrs.) Berniece McConnell

c: J. R. Kress, FAIA, Director, BZA
V. Washington