By Fax To: (202) 727-6072

ELIZABETH MCINTIRE
Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner 1A05
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Washington, DC 20010
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Date: November 15, 2004

To: Mr. Geoff Griffis
Chairman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th St NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Application #17232 - Application of RLA Revitalization Corporation

I am the Single Member District representative for ANC 1A05 in which the subject project is located. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the hearing on November 16 and hope that you will accept these comments for the record and your consideration.

I was present at the ANC 1A Meeting on Wednesday November 10 at which the above application was considered. The developer was not present, nor anyone from the RLA Revitalization Corporation. The CEO of DCCH, and the developer's attorney were in attendance, as well as representatives from the Office of Planning.

There was a quorum present (9 commissioners) but there was considerable unreadiness on this matter, as reflected in the vote, which was ONLY to support the application for reducing the parking to 1,000 spaces, in one sentence:

2 commissioners voting no
3 commissioners voting yes
4 commissioners abstaining

It was a roll call vote. It should also be noted that 2 of the 3 commissioners voting in favor (Mack James and Lenwood Johnson) are members (and officers) on the Board of Directors of the Development Corporation of Columbia Heights (DCCH), a partner in the DC-USA project. They neither publicly admitted their affiliation, nor recused themselves from voting on what would under most circumstances be considered a conflict of interest.

There is also some question as to adequate notice of the meeting. There were some postings online(within 7 days), but not paper notices in two locations in every Single Member District.

The resolution adopted by this questionable process was delivered late according to your requirements for comments from Advisory Neighborhood Commissions.

Considering all of these factors, I suggest that should you accept the resolution of ANC 1A on this matter, it should be with several tons of salt, but not great weight.

Elizabeth McIntire

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BZA
Case No. 17232
Exhibit No. 34

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17232
EXHIBIT NO. 34