321-34th Place, N.E.
Washington, D.C.
May 19, 2005

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis, Chairman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, N. W. Suite 210 South
Washington, D.C. 20001

RECEIVED
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2005 MAY 24 PM 1:10

Re: BZA Application #17304
Benning Road Metrorail Site

Dear Mr. Griffin,

I am a resident of the River Terrace Community (Ward 7) and a recently retired teacher of Smothers Elementary, located two blocks from the proposed site. I am asking that you and your committee approve CSOSA's application for the metro site project.

There is a dire need for such a facility in the area as this site would provide excellent access to their parole officers for the many offenders living in the northeast/southeast sections of the city. I realize that the proposed facility will increase the amount of automobile traffic in the area, though probably minimal. With Metro parking restrictions already in place, the potential employees will be encouraged, almost obligated to use Metro's services. Since a substantial number of the prospective clients live within a mile or so of the site, I'm sure many will walk or use the metro buses as well.

You will probably concur with me that many who have had the misfortune to need probation or parole officers might have some challenges to regain acceptable status in society. Having to travel across the city to receive counseling along with other factors may contribute negatively to the persons' rehabilitation. Having minimal funds, if any, it would not be difficult for a client to be persuaded by friends or circumstances to avoid the trip to northwest for that counseling.

BZA
Case No. 17304
Exhibit No. 61

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17304
EXHIBIT NO. 61

Yielding to the temptation to commit crime probably becomes easier the farther one is from his residence. With the clients living near the proposed facility their neighborhood would serve as a support system providing the encouragement and positive reinforcement needed. The prospective clients could also provide a better example for their sibblings in the local elementary and middle schools in the area. Crime in the area would probably decrease with the potential parole or probation officers located in or near the neighborhood where the clients live. With the decrease in criminal activity in the area future business establishments would be encouraged to build there. CSOSA's proposed site may just be the beginning of a bright future for the area.

Again, I ask you to consider their proposal.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Foster

(Mrs.) Cheryl Foster