COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

March 28, 2005

D.C. BOARD OF ZONING ADJ
2005 MAR 31 PM 4:46

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

Re: 2501 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W. – BZA Application No. 17322

Dear Geoff:

The purpose of this letter is to indicate my strong support for the requested variances and special exceptions for development of the project as proposed in this application. This application represents what I hope is the final step to put this long vacant building back to a productive use in an important location on Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

My involvement with this site predates my tenure on the Council. I have previously filed statements in opposition to, and in support of, earlier versions of proposed developments on this site, which did not go forward. I am encouraged that, after a long period of inaction by others, the current owner has made many improvements to the plans over the earlier versions that were approved by this Board. The current owner has shown great flexibility in seeking design input from the HPRB staff and from several architect members of the HPRB, resulting in a design that received unanimous HPRB approval, and which achieves a superior design at this corner location.

This property has sat vacant and abandoned for a long time while redevelopment has occurred on the surrounding properties. It is now time to get on with the completion of the neighborhood development, by approving this attractive and viable residential/retail project. I understand that the zoning issues in this case result from the unusual shape of the property and its historic landmark status, and the need to configure the new development in a way that respects the historic landmark at the corner. I believe that the development will have a positive impact on the neighborhood. I urge you and the Board to approve the application as proposed.

Sincerely,

Jack Evans

Jack Evans
Councilmember, Ward 2

BZA
Case No. 17322
Exhibit No. 27

cc: Ellen McCarthy, Acting Director, Office of Planning

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17322
EXHIBIT NO. 27