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October 9, 2006

Chairman Geoffrey Griffis
Members of the DC Board of Zoning Adjustments
441 4th Street, NE, Suite 200 South
Washington, DC 20001

Re: 601-645 H Street Ventures
BZA Case No. 17521

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board:

As a candidate for the DC City Council for Ward 6, I have spent considerable time evaluating the issues in my ward and listening to the concerns of our residents. While I strongly support mixed-use redevelopment of the south side of the 600 block of H Street, NE, I share the concerns expressed to you by the ANCs and various community groups. I cannot support the current design proposal under consideration and urge you to reject it.

Because this is the first case in which the H Street Design Guidelines will be applied, your decision in this proceeding will provide the template for future, much needed development along the H Street Corridor. The current design is not consistent with the character of H Street and will have unnecessary adverse impacts on the residences that surround this property on three sides. Recently the developer has taken steps to revise the design, and the community needs time to review these revisions.

For too long, H Street has remained neglected and unimproved, due in large measure to the mixed signals that developers and property owners have received from the DC Government. A well-reasoned, sound application of the H Street Overlay and the associated Design Guidelines in this proceeding will provide clarity and accelerate the renovation and development of this important thoroughfare—which is slated to become one of the City's Great Streets.

I hope you will require the developer to adhere to H Street Overlay which was adopted in January as part of the zoning regulations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Tommy Wells

Cc: Esther Bushman, Esq., General Counsel to the Office of Zoning
Clifford Moy, Secretary to the Board of Zoning Adjustments

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 17521

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia

EXHIBIT NO. 64

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