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May 19, 2026

Board of Zoning Adjustment of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Application No. 21474 – Emory United Methodist Church Letter of Support

Dear Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment:

I am writing to express strong support for Emory United Methodist Church's application for an area variance under Subtitle X § 1000.1 from the rear yard requirement in Subtitle F § 207.1. The variance would allow the adaptive reuse of part of the existing church building and construction of an addition to create an 87-unit multiple dwelling residential building at 1459 Columbia Road, NW.

We support the Church's efforts to redevelop this long-vacant property. The proposed project would add much-needed housing, including IZ+ units, while preserving key architectural features of the church and bell tower that contribute to the neighborhood's character and vitality.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Board of Zoning Adjustment to approve the Church's request for an area variance under Subtitle X § 1000.1 from the rear yard requirement in Subtitle F § 207.1.

Sincerely,

Abel Nuñez
Executive Director

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 21474
EXHIBIT NO. 17

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