COVENANT HOUSE WASHINGTON

Vincent C. Gray
Executive Director

Terri Copeland Devaney
Chairperson

May 7, 2002

Ms. Carol Mitten
DC Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW,
Room 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Zoning Commission Case Number 01-36C, Consolidated PUD and Map Amendment @ Square S5868, Lot 1- Unified Communications Center

Dear Chairman Mitten:

Please allow this letter to serve as not only an additional supporting document in favor of the proposed Unified Communications Center (UCC), but also as testimony to the substantial outreach effort that has been extended to the community of Ward 8.

Covenant House Washington operates a Community Service Center for youth and an Outreach Center in two different facilities on Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue in Ward 8. As Executive Director of Covenant House Washington, and as a member of various organizations such as The Anacostia Coordinating Council, I have been an advocate for the educational advancement of our youth and community at-large and am in full support of any project that will make a positive contribution and generate opportunities. It seems that the UCC is such a project.

I have attended several meetings in which the UCC project was a scheduled item on the agenda. Additionally, a UCC Community Meeting was held at the Covenant House Washington Community Service Center. In each of these meetings, a comprehensive project overview was distributed and presented to those in attendance. Always included was an explanation of the UCC and its benefits to public safety, building facts, timelines, opportunity potential to Ward 8 residents, a site map, and future development possibilities. There was always a large section outlining feedback received from earlier community meetings. Tough questions were always raised, but the project team continued to make their rounds throughout the community to garner support and provide information for this project. I have no doubt that with such a strong effort being extended to the community in the initial stages of development, the impact on the community will be a collaborative effort.

As a voice from the community, I personally, welcome the addition of the UCC and request that the Zoning Commission approve the proposed amendment.

Please contact me 202-610-9600 if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Vincent C Gray

Vincent C. Gray
Executive Director

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 01-36C
Exhibit 43

2002 MAY 22 PM 5:12
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING

Cc: Anthony Hood, Vice-Chair, James Hannaham, Commissioner, Peter May, Commissioner, John Parsons, Commissioner

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.01-36C
EXHIBIT NO.43