November 25, 2002

Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, N.W. Suite 310
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Commission Members:

Good afternoon, my name is Adam Maier and I wish to thank you for the opportunity, and honor, to appear before you tonight in support of the rezoning application of the 2nd Street Preservation Association.

I was born on Capitol Hill and for the past year and a half have been a member of National Community Church. My Grandfather owned a bakery on 9th and H Street N.E. and the office of my Father's accounting business was in the 900 block of H Street, N.E. I live at 10th and D and many years ago served as one of the first Ward 6 Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners. Currently I work as the Staff Director of the Council's Committee on Public Works and the Environment, chaired by Councilmember Carol Schwartz.

I mention my family history in order to place into context my support of the proposal to rezone 201 F Street to allow National Community Church to build a coffee house on their property. Over the years my family and I have witnessed a community of both great hope and great despair within the borders of the Capitol Hill area. I have seen teens, who sat on my lap as a child, turn to selling drugs out of frustration with their place in the world. I have seen cars and homes vandalized and a young teenager dead on the sidewalk following a drug related shooting.

On the positive sign I have also seen growing numbers of residents staying the course by refusing to leave our neighborhood. These people have attended PSA Meetings, invited the police to their homes for community meetings and many have put on orange hats in a valiant attempt to reclaim their neighborhoods. National Community Church has also been a good neighbor to our community. This past Easter they sponsored an Easter Egg Hunt at Lincoln Park where 300 community children were able to play in a safe supportive environment. On Mother's day members of the congregation painted the entire home of a single mother. During the week of September 11th members of the congregation gathered in the middle of the night to prepare breakfast for the workers at the Pentagon while others met to pray at the foot of the Capitol.

Today a congregation that started with 16 members 6 years ago conducts three services on Sundays to a congregation of more than 500 people. The majority of those who attend the Church live in the District. Excluding me, they are a young and active congregation. They share their time freely. The Coffee

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-32
Exhibit 45

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-32
EXHIBIT NO.45

house that the Church plans to open at 201 F Street will not only be a building with good coffee but it will be a building with a mission. The doors of the building will be open to the community for fellowship. It will be a place where the ANC can meet and where volunteers can come to prepare for a Saturday afternoon of work in the community. It will be a place where community organizing can occur and where children can come to drink hot chocolate while planning their next Eastern egg hunt. It will also be a place where teenagers will know that they can find an adult willing to help them think about the choices that can keep them off the streets. This Church has been a good neighbor and it intends to become a greater neighbor in the future. The 500 members of the congregation want to lay a foundation at 201 F that will help to bring together those who want to get a good cup of coffee and who want to help make our community a good, safe, comforting place to live. We ask that you join us in our efforts by approving this application and by agreeing to have some coffee at our first community meeting in the building.

Sincerely,

Adam E. Maier
333 10th Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002