Sharon A. McKay
c/o Capital Yacht Club
1000Water Street, SW B-1
Washington, D.C. 20001

Director
District Of Columbia Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW, Ste.210
Washington, DC 20024

Re: Zoning Commission Case #02-42,
Text Amendment: Waterfront Open Space Zone

Dear Commissioners:

I am a member of the Capital Yacht Club and have been part of the Waterfront Community for almost ten years. I am also a teacher of English to adults from many countries. Capital Yacht Club hosts cruising transients who bring their boats from all over the world. Every summer, I make new friends from Europe, Asia, Australia and Latin America, not to mention sailors from every corner of the U.S.A. These sailors may be doctors, lawyers or politicians in their countries. When these boaters step on dry land, they find an open door into Capital Yacht Club food, facilities, fun and friendship. In fact, we have been the maritime welcome ambassadors in our Nation's Capital for a century. We have countless thank-you notes and photographs to prove it. This city and our country need all the ambassadors we can get in these difficult times.

11DCMR 917.1(y)(1) proposes to restrict yacht clubs from renting slips to transients. On the Southwest Waterfront, the Capital Yacht Club is the facility that can offer appropriate services to these transients while docked. Since Gangplank is now under the control of the NCRC, it is likely they would enjoy increasing their revenues by cutting off the Yacht Club's transients. However, the current lack of facilities and maintenance at Gangplank would be very discouraging to incoming transients, whether they be mega-yachts or small sailing vessels.

We are teachers and learners here tonight. Would we like our maritime tourists to encounter nothing but difficulties in their efforts to see, learn and spend money in Washington, D.C.? There is no valid reason in public policy to exclude Capital Yacht Club from welcoming transient vessels into our city and country as we have done for so many years.

This proposed Amendment must be adjusted to reflect this -- the best interests of our Southwest Waterfront and the city at large.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sharon A. McKay

Sharon A. McKay
Capital Yacht Club Member

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-42
EXHIBIT NO.41