Bloomingdale Civic Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1438
Washington, DC 20013
(202) 234-5399

Cleopatra Jones
President

D.C. ZONING COMMISSION
2003 SEP 22 PM 4:41

September 9, 2003

Ms. Maybelle Taylor Bennett
Director, Howard University Community Association
2731 Georgia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ms. Bennett:

At the regularly scheduled June 16th meeting of the Bloomingdale Civic Association, a presentation was made of the plans for the new Bethune Hall at Howard University. At that time, Mr. Bruce Costello and the Architectural team of Hillier-Amos Bailey Arnold described the new dormitory as a replacement building for a dormitory that was now obsolete.

The new building's amenities were described in detail, as including a convenience store, cyber café, a community room, and fitness facilities that would be for the exclusive use of students. Laundry facilities, study rooms, social lounges were among the more typical amenities with which dormitories are usually equipped, and these also would be for the exclusive use of students. None of these uses is likely to generate increased pedestrian or vehicular traffic that will adversely affect Bloomingdale residents.

The closure of College Street for use as a landscaped pedestrian street was found not to be objectionable. We understand that vehicular use will be restricted to emergency vehicles, service vehicles, University shuttle busses and students' who are moving into and out of the dormitory. In the presentation, the description of the proximity of the building to the utilities that run beneath College Street, the cost of providing parking and the minimal additional parking that would be required of the University based on the number of additional beds the new dormitory would accommodate, were all found acceptable. In addition, Bloomingdale residents are not likely to experience any significant additional competition for on-street parking from residents of the new dormitory.

The building was also described as having strategically placed security personnel and equipment that is state-of-the-art.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 03-17
Exhibit 14

Rooting for a Better Tomorrow"

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.03-17
EXHIBIT NO.14

In summary, the new Bethune Hall promises to provide much-needed upgraded residential space for Howard University students that is located close to the campus. It is not likely to create adverse impacts for Bloomingdale residents, and therefore the Bloomingdale Civic Association wholeheartedly supports this project.

Sincerely,

Cleopatra Jones
President
Bloomingdale Civic Association