



Groundwork Anacostia River

Anthony J. Hood
Chairman
DC Office of Zoning
441 4th Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20001
Date 4/3/11

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Dear Chairman Hood,

My name is Dennis Chestnut and I am the executive director of Groundwork Anacostia River DC. Groundwork Anacostia is a nonprofit business located in Ward 7 that works to foster and awaken the potential of communities through tangible projects that involve local people and improve the community's physical landscape over many years. I am writing this statement in support of the zoning request being made by City Interests for the Parkside development project.

The Parkside neighborhood, as well as many east of the river neighborhoods, have been very under-served for decades and are now undergoing much needed investment by the District government and others. City interests has already improved the Parkside neighborhood by building the Cesar Chavez high school, broken ground on new senior housing and a state-of-the-art early learning center. This early investment by City Interests has contributed to this community being selected as part of the *Promise Neighborhood Initiative* by the US Department of Education. City Interests has also involved the local community in the development by including local businesses and organizations in all aspects of the project.

This development will bring much needed resources to the area in the form of retail, jobs, housing and community linkages. As a native Washingtonian, local community leader, business owner and lifetime resident of this community, I strongly support the zoning request that is before you for this project. We move ahead as a 21st century community or lag behind as a 20th century area with much needed investment in the neighborhoods and the people.

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to submit this statement to you and I look forward to your continued support and commitment to the citizens of Washington, DC.

Sincerely yours,

Dennis Chestnut Executive Director

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 05-28E
EXHIBIT NO. 34
ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.05-28E
EXHIBIT NO.34