Report of ANC-6D Zoning Commission Case No. 07-13D PUD Modification – The Randall School, 65 Eye Street, SW November 25, 2013

Dear Members of the Commission,

The new residential building and museum that will be constructed at the Randall School is tremendously exciting and vastly improved since the original concepts presented by the Corcoran Museum of Art and even more so since Bing Thom further refined his concept since March 2012. ANC-6D is looking forward to the major museum that will house the Rubell Family Collection and is tremendously enthusiastic about how this development will extend our neighborhood's focus on the arts from Arena Stage across our Southwest neighborhood.

We have been pleased to work with the Applicant to ensure that their project is welcoming to the existing residential neighborhood and believe that the adjustments that they have made, particularly with respect to the greater openness in the courtyard areas, provide architectural elements that will prove a significant amenity to the residents of Southwest.

The Applicant has also taken to heart our concerns about the design of the eastern entrance to the restaurant. In earlier iterations it was all but a solid brick face which appeared cold and unwelcoming. ANC-6D is very pleased that that eastern entrance area has now been largely transformed and opened up by the extensive use of glass in the enhanced pavilion.

As well, we are pleased with the addition of Juliette balconies and significantly more glass on the neighborhood facing sides of the residential structure to break up what had previously been a fairly cold exterior.

The Commission is extremely supportive of the development and the plans that have been put forth by the Applicant. However, we must note that this was a project in which our late Commissioner Ron McBee had had taken an intense interest almost from the beginning. Since his untimely death last month, ANC-D has been struggling to catch up on a number of items that were left at loose ends -- this project among them. Thus, when Randall came up for a vote, the Commission belatedly recognized that there were still several areas where we would benefit from further clarification prior to offering a vote of unqualified support.

Consequently, at the November 18, 2013 meeting of ANC-6D, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present, the Commission voted 5-0-0 to conditionally support the plan set forth by the Applicants in ZC #07-13D, Modification to PUD (Randall School), 65 Eye Street, SW, pending further negotiations between the Commission and the Applicant on a number of outstanding issues.

The issues we specifically noted in our motion include:

- 1. A clear understanding of any changes that may have resulted from the HPRB meeting held on Thursday, November 21, 2013.
- 2. Agreement with the Applicant on a formal Construction Management Plan.
- 3. An updated and enumerated list of community benefits.
- 4. An agreement on employment and community hiring guidelines.

There will have been only two weeks between the November 18 ANC vote and the December 2 hearing. During this time we will have had interruptions for travel and the Thanksgiving holiday week. ANC-6D has not been able to schedule time to sit with the Applicant for further discussion. We beg the indulgence of the Commission so that we may have proper time to reach agreement on these issues with the Applicant and soon provide unqualified support for this exciting project.

All the best from ANC-6D for a very happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Andy Litsky

Chairman, ANC-6D

On behalf of the Commission

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