

Amber Marshall  
8913 Georgia Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
202-942-6138

September 22, 2008

Jennifer Steingasser  
Deputy Director  
Development Review and Historic Preservation  
DC Office of Planning  
801 North Capitol Street, NE Ste 4000  
Washington DC 20002

**Re: Zoning Commission Case 08-09, 16<sup>th</sup> Street Heights  
Overlay**

Dear Ms. Steingasser:

My name is Amber Marshall and I am a resident of Silver Spring that works in the district (555 12th Street, NW). I am writing to oppose the proposal to expand the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Heights Overlay.

I work regularly as a tutor with members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Washington DC 3rd Ward. The tutoring program currently meets once a week to offer free educational assistance to youth and adults. All of those involved in the program work on a voluntary basis. I believe there are approximately 35 students and tutors that regularly attend the weekly tutoring night. The program encourages young people to be more actively engaged in their education as well as provides adult literacy and education programs. However, due to the very limited space at our current location it can be very challenging to provide an atmosphere that promotes learning. Students are regularly put into the few available classrooms 3 and 4 at a time with tutors that have to attempt to give each student individual attention while trying to keep them focused on their work. It can be extremely distracting and counter-productive. Many students and tutors have to go outside or meet in hallways and stairwells in order to find a "quiet" space to focus. This is just one example of the challenges these church members face in their current rented location in the capital heights neighborhood. The new location on 16th and Emerson NW would provide ample classroom space to allow this program to better meet the needs of the students.

I understand that one of the main concerns of those that are proposing to expand the zoning overlay is the potential increase in traffic and parking. From my

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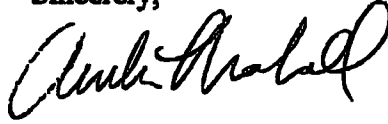
ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 08-09  
District of Columbia  
EXHIBIT NO. 31  
CASE NO. 08-09  
EXHIBIT NO. 31

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experience I can say that the majority, including myself, of those that attend the weekly tutoring night rely on public transportation. Consequently, more than enough private parking will be available to those that drive and the neighbors will not be inconvenienced by an overflow of vehicles. I strongly believe that construction of the new church building will not only provide the church members with a better location to worship but will also benefit the surrounding neighborhoods and community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amber Marshall", written in a cursive style.

Amber Marshall

# ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

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Washington, DC 20004-1206

## Fax Transmittal

September 22, 2008

RECIPIENT NAME(S)	RECIPIENT FAX NUMBER(S)	RECIPIENT TELEPHONE NUMBER(S)	RECIPIENT ROOM #(S)
Ms. Jennifer Steingasser	202-727-6072		
SENDER	SENDER'S TELEPHONE NUMBER	SENDER'S ROOM NUMBER	
Ms. Amber Marshall	202-942-6138	DC-829m	
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Please see the accompanying letter re case number ZC 08-09.			

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