



THEARC
THEATER

June 29, 2020

Anthony Hood, Chairman
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 Fourth Street N.W., Suite 200S
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Skyland Town Center – Proposed Arts Walk Along Naylor Road, SE

Dear Chairman Hood and Members of the Commission:

I am the President of Building Bridges Across the River (“BBAR”). BBAR is a non-profit focused on providing residents east of the Anacostia River access to facilities, programs, and partnerships in arts and culture, education, health and well-being, recreation, and economic opportunities. BBAR is the managing partner behind the Town Hall Education Arts & Recreation Campus (“THEARC”) and fosters the relationships between THEARC and resident partners. These resident partners include Washington School for Girls, Bishop Walker School for Boys, The Washington Ballet, the Phillips Collection, and several others.

We have been approached by members of Skyland Holdings LLC to help them curate and manage the rotating installations of art work, community information, and showcases that will be located in the ground level of the parking structure along Naylor Road in the new Skyland project. We think that the proposal to create an Arts Walk along the Naylor Road streetscape that will allow for the posting of community events, to showcase art work of local artists, and provide a unique location for art will be a wonderful aspect of the new Skyland project and will be a significant amenity.

Given our experience and presence in the Ward 7 and Ward 8 communities, we believe that we will be able to help the developers of the Skyland project create relationships with THEARC and many of its resident partners. We are excited to work with the Skyland project to bring this new arts location to life.

Sincerely,

Rahsaan Bernard
President, Building Bridges Across the River