

# RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

7th and Maine Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20024

Rev. Michael Bledsoe, PH.D. , Pastor

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November 2, 2017

Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 220 South  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Z.C. 11-03J  
SW Waterfront Redevelopment Project / The Wharf - Phase 2  
Second Stage PUD and First Stage PUD Modification


Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the Riverside Baptist Church, I am writing to express strong support for the proposed Second Stage PUD and First Stage PUD Modification for Phase 2 of the SW Waterfront Redevelopment Project / The Wharf. The plans proposed for Phase 2 of the Wharf will extend the recently completed, and already successful, Phase 1 of the redevelopment project, and complete the transformation of this long neglected area of the District into a world class waterfront neighborhood.

With the recent opening of Phase 1 of the Wharf, the District's business community is already experiencing both direct and indirect economic benefits as a result of the new office, service, and hospitality uses that have opened. As one of several churches impacted by and benefitting from our close proximity to the Wharf and as a pastor who has worked closely with the PNH team for over ten years, I can testify to just how inspirational this project has been for us and Southwest. Not only has Phase 1 been the result of remarkable visionary leaders but it has been actualized by equally remarkable dedication, hard work and a commitment to dialogue with those who are stakeholders in this community. I fully expect as much or more with Phase 2.

Hence, I respectfully urge the Commission to approve the proposed Second Stage PUD and First Stage PUD Modification as soon as possible.

Respectfully,



Rev. Michael Bledsoe, Pastor