

OUTLINE OF TESTIMONY

Eric Colbert
Eric Colbert & Associates PC

- I. Introduction and experience
- II. Overall site planning considerations
- III. Description and design of proposed building
- IV. Streetscape improvements, circulation, and access
- V. Summary and Conclusions

ERIC COLBERT & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

(A Professional Corporation)

COMPANY PROFILE

After graduating from Cornell University with a professional degree in Architecture in 1975, Eric Colbert moved to Washington, D.C. to accept a position with the noted architectural firm Arthur Cotton Moore Associates. His work there included production of design and construction documents for numerous apartment and office building projects throughout the metropolitan area, including the historic Old Post Office Pavilion on Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Colbert was registered as an architect in 1978 and worked as a consultant until 1981, when he founded Eric Colbert & Associates. The firm has extensive experience with all building types, including apartment and office buildings, retail establishments, restaurants, hotels, and single family homes, and has built an impressive reputation in all aspects of historic preservation and new construction. Historically, the firm's roots are in all types of multi-family housing including affordable residences. We have worked with many of Washington's major private developers as well as affordable housing groups including Jubilee Housing and So Others Might Eat.

Eric Colbert & Associates maintains excellent working relationships with all divisions of the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, as well as building departments throughout other local jurisdictions. Complex projects requiring approval from the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment, the United States Commission on Fine Arts, the D.C. Historic Preservation Review Board, and Advisory Neighborhood Commissions are their specialty. Mr. Colbert and his staff are licensed to practice architecture in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, and are active in local professional associations including The Real Estate Group, Commercial Real Estate Women, The District of Columbia Building Industry Association, and The American Institute of Architects. Mr. Colbert spent many years as a member of the Mayor's Building Code Advisory Committee. The firm has been certified as a Small Business Enterprise. The majority of the firm's architects are LEED certified.

With a reputation for being design oriented, the firm's accomplishments have been recognized on a national level as "innovative." Noted *Washington Post* architecture critic, Benjamin Forgey, has reviewed the firm's work on several occasions, most recently recognizing "a maturing vision" in its work. He described the firm's award-winning renovation of 1520 16th Street, N.W. (Church Place Condominiums) as offering "a spirited answer to Washington's age-old contextual question-how do you design new pieces to fit into the splendid quilt of the city's existing architecture?" Highlights of the firm's commercial projects include historic structure renovations, new office building construction, as well as a variety of retail and restaurant commissions. Many of the firm's completed projects have won AIA and other industry awards for design excellence.

For every completed project the firm has executed, there are at least three or four others for which our company prepared detailed feasibility studies. Our proven careful analysis of the zoning regulations and building codes enables us to generate schemes that are zoning compliant and highly buildable. Mr. Colbert personally attends the vast majority of evening community meetings and is an effective communicator in these public settings.

Most of the firm's commissions are not "matter of right." Clients come to us because we have an excellent track record of being able to accurately predict the size of a project that can be achieved after all the public agencies have weighed in.