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NoMa Parks Foundation

December 7, 2017

Zoning Commission
for the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W., 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Zoning Commission Case No. 17-09 – Eckington Park PUD

Dear Members of the Commission:

This letter, written on behalf of the NoMa Parks Foundation (the "Foundation"), is to express our strong support for the application of Foulger Pratt to obtain a Consolidated PUD and Map Amendment allowing it to build "Eckington Park," the proposed residential project at 1501 Harry Thoms Way, NE. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed in 2012 to establish welcoming, sustainable, beautiful spaces where people can play, refresh and connect.

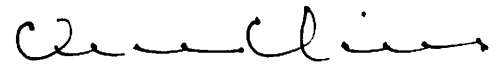
The Foundation has worked closely with Foulger Pratt over several years on a Foundation project to bring additional parkland to the neighborhood and to eliminate a dangerous, existing condition on the Metropolitan Branch Trail. Foulger Pratt's support in this effort enabled the Foundation to acquire an additional half acre of land on behalf of the District of Columbia government. This property has been acquired at no cost to the DC government and District taxpayers.

Additionally, Foulger Pratt has agreed to contribute a significant amount of funding for various park improvements. As the cornerstone of its community benefits proffer, Foulger Pratt has agreed to contribute \$350,000 to fund improvements in the park. Based on our current construction estimates, this donation to NPF will fully fund the amphitheater and stage pavilion. Additionally, Foulger Pratt has agreed to allow the Foundation's general contractor to use the Foulger Pratt portion of Square 3581 to store equipment and materials during the construction of the park which we expect will begin this spring.

The development of Eckington Park and our adjoining park and its amenities will bring new life to a formerly derelict industrial site. Additionally, it will bring high quality and much-needed green space to the community. Eckington Park and the park project will vastly improve safety along the Metropolitan Branch Trail, an important transportation resource, by eliminating a blind, hazardous turn that is perilously difficult to navigate on a bicycle and serves as an ambush opportunity for troublemakers. By providing a multitude of new "eyes" on the MBT and the park by virtue of the many residents in the apartment building, there will be a much more welcoming, secure environment.

In conclusion, we respectfully request your support of the application of Foulger Pratt and appreciate your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,



Charles (Sandy) Wilkes
Chairman, NoMa Parks Foundation

cc: Eric D. Shaw, Director
Office and Planning

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.17-09
EXHIBIT NO.37