



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**



March 21, 2019

Zoning Commission of
The District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W.
Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Zoning Map Petition for Square 5799, Lot 976 (Z.C Case No. 18-10)

Dear Members of the Commission:

As the owner of Lot 976 in Square 5799 (the “Property”), this letter is to confirm that the District of Columbia, acting by and through the Department of Housing and Community Development (“DHCD”), supports High Street LLC’s petition to rezone the Property from the R-3 Zone District to the RA-2 Zone District because such petition is consistent with the DHCD’s solicitation for the Property and will help meet the District’s goal of providing for additional affordable and workforce housing in the District.

Through its Property Acquisition and Disposition Division (PADD), the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) stabilizes neighborhoods by decreasing the number of vacant and abandoned residential properties in the District and transforming vacant and/or abandoned residential properties into homeownership opportunities for District residents at all income levels. PADD has successfully acquired and disposed of hundreds of vacant, abandoned and deteriorated properties in the District to create affordable housing opportunities for District residents.

This property is part of DHCD’s goal to transform vacant blighted properties into productive assets that benefit District of Columbia neighborhoods. The city is setting the bar higher by using more of its assets to build pathways to homeownership for residents. Through Vacant to Vibrant DC and the PADD RFP Program, over 40 sites in DHCD’s property inventory will be transformed into nearly 70 units of workforce housing, representing over 150 residents. The High Street will be one such project that will create 28 new units of for-sale housing. DHCD issued the High Street RFP to developers and selected Neighborhood Development Company to transform the blighted property into a vibrant and productive solution that would increase homeownership opportunities for District residents who earn 50% and 80% of AMI.

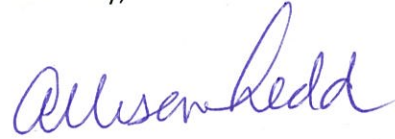
DHCD believes that approval of the map amendment petition will positively impact large numbers of persons and the public in general by enabling the delivery of much-needed workforce and

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affordable housing in accordance with Mayor Bower's goal to create 36,000 residential units in the District—at least 12,000 of which will be affordable housing—by 2025.

Therefore, DHCD strongly supports the Petition and requests that the Zoning Commission approve Z.C Case No. 18-10.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Allison Ladd". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Allison Ladd
Deputy Director