



HOPE COMMUNITY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Developing Character, Enriching Minds

January 23, 2019

RE: Support for 8th Street Hanover Development

To whom it may concern,

As the Principal of Hope Community PCS-Tolson Campus located at 2917 8th St NE, I am writing to express our support for the Hanover R.S. Limited Partnership's ("Hanover") 375 unit development on 8th Street NE, between Irving and Kearney streets in the Brookland/Edgewood neighborhood. On September 25, 2018, Dan Gordon and his team presented the plans at the Ward 5 Advisory Neighborhood Commission meeting to construct two 65-foot-tall buildings separated by a landscaped plaza with 375 units, plus a 186-space parking garage. We are confident that this development will positively contribute to the growth and vibrancy of the 8th Street, NE neighborhood.

Hanover has committed to provide approximately \$200,000 to surrounding community organizations and schools in order to support programming and revitalization efforts to our neighborhood residents, with \$50,000 slated to revitalizing Hope Community PCS's Tolson Campus. Tolson is the learning community for 470 scholars in grades PK3-8. The majority of our scholars come from ward 5, which includes the Brookland and Edgewood communities. These scholars would either walk, be dropped off by a family member or use public transit. The improvements to our school campus would be a visual enhancement to the families who entrust us with their child's education. In order to promote the social, emotional, and physical health, as well as to beautify our campus, Tolson would like to revitalize its outdoor space to on the north side of its building. Studies show that play, both structured and unstructured, helps to develop children's physical, social, cognitive, and sensory needs, while providing emotional fulfillment and enjoyment. It is with this philosophy in mind that Tolson will use the contributed funds create a multipurpose outdoor space that will promote and support outdoor activities as well as support our programs during school as well as our afterschool athletics and activities programs in the following ways:

1. Resurface, seal, and paint blacktop on the north side of building to create a safe place for athletics, activities, and play : \$30,000
2. Remove concrete platform in front of the building's entrance that has been an ongoing safety concern: \$5,000
3. Purchase and install two in ground basketball hoops: \$4,000
4. Purchase and install a bike rack: \$600

5. Purchase large planters, supplies, and tools to create a garden space for the STEAM program and: \$3,000
6. Repair and improve fencing on north side of the building: \$6,000
7. Minor landscaping on west side of the building: \$1,4000

In the event that there are excess funds, those funds will be used to paint an artistic mural on the front entrance side of the building. The estimated cost of this project is \$5,000-\$7,000. We will provide a summary of the use of the funds within one year of the date of the donation of the funds to provide the required confirmation that the funds have been used for these purposes.

I respectfully request that you approve the application for the Hanover's development as the addition of the 375 unit building will add to the growth and development of the Brookland/Edgewood neighborhood. Should you have any questions regarding our support or the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 832-7370

Best regards,

Georgia McElroy
Principal
Hope Community PCS Tolson