



**Anacostia** 1800 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, SE Suite 100  
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"Serving the Community Since 1969"

May 7, 2019

Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Second Floor  
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Petition of Masjid Muhammad, Inc. For Approval of  
Zoning Map Amendment in Square 5790  
Letter of Support

Dear Members of the Commission:

The Anacostia Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) is pleased to write this letter in support of the Petition of Masjid Muhammad, Inc. in connection with its application for a Zoning Map Amendment in Square 5790.

Masjid Muhammad, as an owner of several properties within Square 5790 (along Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue, SE) has been a cornerstone in the Anacostia community for many decades, serving the community in a variety of ways including operating the Shabazz Baker, Clara Muhammad School, helping to open and provide discounted rent for America's Islamic Heritage Museum, supporting free food programs and facilitating other community and cultural events at their properties.

Since 2018, the Masjid Muhammad, Inc. and its development partner, Banneker Ventures, has done significant outreach in the community. As a result of Masjid Muhammad, Inc. longevity of service to the Anacostia community, outreach and proposed uses for the new building. The Anacostia Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) whole heartedly support the Masjid Muhammad, Inc. request for a Zoning Map Amendment.

For 50 years, the Anacostia Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) as a Community Development Corporation has engaged in activities to meet the overall economic needs, and to improve the quality-of-life circumstances of the District of Columbia residents, specifically those residing in the Anacostia/Far Southeast community. The AEDC and its subsidiaries have been at the forefront of housing development, commercial revitalization (including small/minority business development), job creation and venture development to serve residents who live East of the Anacostia River and the District of Columbia at-large. AEDC through the Business Development Center (AEDC-BDC) continues to devote significant resources to facilitate

**ZONING COMMISSION**  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO.19-03  
EXHIBIT NO.26

opportunities for small businesses to start, expand and grow. Along with these opportunities AEDC helps create safe communities for residents to live, work, and patronize.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 202-889-5100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stanley Jackson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stanley Jackson  
President & CEO