



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

VINCENT C. GRAY
Ward 7 Councilmember
Chair, Committee on Health

Committee Member
Business and Economic Development
Finance and Revenue
Judiciary and Public Safety

June 19, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
District of Columbia Office of Zoning
441 Fourth Street, N.W., Suite 200S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Application of Kenilworth Avenue Northbridge, LLC for Voluntary Design Review and Special Exception Approval for Lot 806 and Parcel 185/38 in Square 5113, Z.C. Case No. 19-09

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of The Residences at Kenilworth Park Affordable Assisted Living Community Project (the "**Project**"), which is being developed in Ward 7 by Gragg Cardona Partners, The Carding Group, and Brick & Story (collectively, the "**Development Team**").

The Development Team provided my office with a profile of the Project, and I was very impressed with the elements and benefits of the proposed Project. Specifically, the Development Team has assembled a team of professionals to build and operate a world-class Affordable Assisted Living Community that will provide critically needed living space and medical care for elderly residents. The Project will combine, for example, apartment-style housing with personal care and supportive services, as well as 3 meals per day, homemaking, laundry, transportation and 24-hour staff to meet residents' needs.

I am especially pleased that the Project will be in my Ward where there is income disparity and limited housing options when compared to the rest of the District. Many Ward 7 residents receive Medicaid benefits, and of the 728 assisted living apartments in the District, there are only 33 units that will accept Medicaid. Further, many District seniors end up in nursing homes – including nursing homes in Virginia and Maryland – because of limited options in their own community.

I want to acknowledge and applaud the Development Team's diligent and persistent engagement with the Ward 7 community. On March 26, 2019, the Development Team received the unanimous endorsement of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7D, in which the Project is located. The Development Team is also working on a Community Benefits Agreement.

For these reasons, I support The Residences at Kenilworth Park Affordable Assisted Living Community Project. Please take the above points in consideration in rendering your decision. I am available if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vincent C. Gray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "V" at the beginning.

Vincent C. Gray
Ward 7 Councilmember