



December 2, 2019

Zoning Commission for the District of Columbia
441 Fourth Street, NW, Suite 200S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Letter in Support on PUD Application for 1200 5th Street, NW submitted by MCF WALP Phase 1, LLC

Dear Zoning Commission,

I write on behalf of the Greater Washington Community Foundation and the Partnership to End Homelessness to express our support for the Consolidated Planned Unit Development (PUD) Application for 1200 5th Street, NW submitted by MCF WALP Phase 1, LLC (MidCity).

The Greater Washington Community Foundation launched the Partnership to End Homelessness in 2019. This initiative aims to galvanize private sector engagement and unite the public and private sectors around the District's strategy to address homelessness and housing insecurity in the nation's capital. The Partnership will advance effective and innovative solutions to help our most marginalized and economically disadvantaged neighbors earning between 0-60% of Area Median Income and ensure that homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring in DC.

MidCity's commitment to developing, maintaining, and supporting affordable housing includes a \$75,000 contribution to the Partnership to End Homelessness as a component of its PUD proffer package. This contribution will support the Partnership's Grantmaking Fund which:

- Enhances the capacity and expands the network of affordable housing developers and supportive service providers in the community;
- Provides flexible funding to help nonprofits pay for small expenses not covered by federal and local housing programs—such as rental application fees, security deposits and moving expenses—which can create big barriers to stable housing; and
- Supports innovative approaches and advocacy efforts focused on strengthening policies that impact housing and homelessness.

Grants will provide support for nonprofit providers in DC to help people earning between 0-60% of AMI to obtain and maintain permanent housing and reduce the amount of time spent in the homeless services system, consistent with the District's affordable housing framework.



Moreover, MidCity has committed to serve on the Partnership's Leadership Council to engage private-sector networks to prioritize ending homelessness as a long-term strategic priority for the District of Columbia.

MidCity's contribution and leadership efforts will have a significant impact on the Partnership's ability to prevent homelessness and housing insecurity in the District. A proffer of this nature is a laudable form of community benefit that will impact individuals and organizations in the entire city.

For the above reasons, we encourage the Commission to approve this PUD application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tonia Wellons'.

Tonia Wellons
Interim President and CEO