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Zoning Commission for the
District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 210S
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Z.C. Case No. 20-12 - Applicant's Post-Hearing Submission

Dear Members of the Commission:

At Westminster Presbyterian Church DC, any conversation about racial equity and inclusion begins with our vision and mission statements which guide the church's relationships with the community, its programming, and, importantly, its decision to undertake a development project including 123 units of affordable housing for seniors, that, given the demographics of Washington, DC, will serve many residents of color.

Vision: As a faith community, WestminsterDC envisions a world where the justice, equity, and love taught by Jesus are lived and enjoyed by everyone.

Mission: WestminsterDC's mission is to walk with those fighting for justice and equity; to be an ally for truth, reconciliation, and inclusion; to be a community center for civic actions and activities; and to promote the holistic well-being of everyone in Southwest DC and beyond.

For Westminster equity and inclusion is the state of being just, impartial and fair. It is synonymous with justice. It involves an understanding of the current and historical challenges faced by the oppressed and to be allies with them as they fight to enjoy full, healthy lives. At Westminster equity starts in a race-informed place but quickly moves into other forms of inequality such as gender, sexual orientation and a more sensitive understanding surrounding ethnicity. Westminster does this through our ministry and our programs.

The Westminster congregation is approximately 160 members and non-members worshipers, 50% of whom are people of color. But it is not just about diversity. It is about inclusion. Six of nine of the governing body are people of color. Of eight paid and volunteer staff, four are people of color. Our worship services honor and include many different cultural and ethnic traditions.

Westminster promotes an understanding that racial equity, inclusion and justice are critical to the well-being of our society by encouraging difficult conversations about race and ethnicity through its worship services, bible study class, and other intentional programs. It is the church's expanded awareness of the challenges of systematic racism that drive its ministry and programming that the Office of Planning has noted in its report.

Westminster seeks to take real anti-racist action and this project is part of it.

Sincerely,

Co-Pastors Ruth & Brian Hamilton and the Session

Westminster Federal EIN 53-0205898

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EXHIBIT NO.52B