



Donna Purchase, President
Southwest Neighborhood Assembly
Washington, DC 20024

November 11, 2020

Chairman Anthony Hood
Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia
441 Fourth Street, N.W., Suite 220S
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Application for a Consolidated Planned Unit Development and Zoning Map Amendment Westminster Church at 400 I Street, SW (Square 499, Lot 52)

Dear Chairman Hood and Commissioners:

I am writing to urge your full support of the Westminster Presbyterian Church project in SW.

My name is Donna Purchase and I am President of The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA). I have been a Southwest DC resident since 1987 and have served in various board positions for more than 10 years. Over the years, I have witnessed the good work of Westminster Presbyterian Church as they served the community in so many ways.

- i.e. 123 units of senior affordable housing (60% AMI or lower if city funds come through)
- public space and support for neighborhood serving events, such as, Toys for Tots, community meetings, etc.
- the church's long-time advocacy for public housing residents and Build First for Greenleaf
- Community-based ministries
- the affordable jazz and blues program
- help with funeral services and meeting other spiritual needs for SW residents

Westminster has robust community-based ministry programs. It founded Food & Friends to provide meals to home-bound persons with AIDS. It founded START at Westminster, a harm reduction program to stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and meet people where they are. It hosts 12-step groups and yoga classes.

I trust that Westminster will always do the best it can to serve our whole community with justice and equity. Please support them in their efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Donna Purchase' in a cursive script.

Donna Purchase
President, Southwest Neighborhood Assembly

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