











March 14, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Anthony J. Hood Chairman, District of Columbia Zoning Commission 441 4th Street, NW Suite 200-S Washington, D.C. 20001 zcsubmissions@dc.gov

Re: <u>Letter in Support of Case No. 22-39</u>: <u>Letter in Support of Design Review in the NHR</u> Zone for 633 Howard Rd. SE (Sq. 5861, Lot 991) - Ward 8 (the "Property")

Dear Chairman Hood and Zoning Commissioners:

I am writing to express my support of the Design Review Application in the NHR Zone for 633 Howard Road SE (Sq. 5861, Lot 991) (the "Property"). As the Senior Vice President of Building Bridges Across the River and Director of 11th Street Bridge Park, I have had the privilege of working with Ward 8 neighbors, community stakeholders, and the District government to transform an old freeway bridge into a park above the Anacostia River. And while doing this work, I have had the opportunity to become acquainted with the Managing Partners and Development team at Redbrick LMD, the developers of the Bridge District project and the Property.

The Bridge District project, like the 11th Street Bridge Park, reflects a bold new vision for Ward 8 that will spur needed economic growth and opportunities for Ward 8 residents and future generations. The collective impact of this developments will rewrite the Ward 8 narrative (locally and nationally) -- highlighting this east of the river community as a thriving and vibrant, culturally rich destination for District residents and visitors.

The Redbrick team shares a deep commitment to Ward 8 and its residents. I have seen the team show up in the community as both active listeners and doers willing to go the extra mile to seek community feedback and share resources, time, and talent in support of local residents, organizations, and events. Redbrick has also been a champion and a supporter of significant Ward 8 cultural and experience activations such as the Anacostia River Festival that we produce and the Anacostia Coordinating Council's Annual Boat Cruise and Luncheon.

I support the Bridge District project and the design review application for this Property. Thank you for considering my recommendation, and I hope that you will approve the design review application.

Sincerely,

Scott Kratz

Senior Vice President

Building Bridges Across the River