

Tuesday, August 4, 2026

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
441 4th Street NW, Suite 200S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Z.C. Case No. 26-07 - Letter of Support for the Design Review Application for a Proposed Hotel at the Bridge District

Dear Chairman Hood and Commissioners,

On behalf of Destination DC, I am writing in support of the proposed hotel development adjacent to the Anacostia Metro Station.

As the official destination marketing organization for Washington, DC, Destination DC is committed to promoting the District's diverse neighborhoods, supporting the visitor economy, and ensuring that travelers experience the full breadth of what our city has to offer. The proposed hotel represents an opportunity to strengthen tourism east of the Anacostia River and continued economic growth in Ward 8.

This project has the potential to:

- Expand the District's lodging inventory in a strategically located area.
- Encourage visitors to explore neighborhoods beyond the traditional downtown core, generating economic activity for local restaurants, retailers and small businesses.
- Support the District's investment in the officially designated Arts and Culture District by providing convenient accommodations for visitors attending performances, exhibitions, festivals and cultural events.
- Increase overnight visitation and visitor spending, creating lasting benefits for neighborhood businesses and the broader local economy.
- Reinforce Washington, DC's reputation as a city in which authentic neighborhood experiences are an essential part of the visitor journey.

The Bridge District has emerged as one of the District's newest mixed-use destinations, offering waterfront amenities, local businesses and growing residential and commercial activity. Located adjacent to the District's officially designated Arts and Culture District, this area is well positioned to become an even stronger destination for both residents and visitors. A hotel at this location would help connect travelers with the neighborhood's expanding cultural, culinary and recreational offerings while encouraging longer stays and greater exploration of Ward 8.



As Washington continues to diversify its tourism assets, investments that broaden where visitors stay and spend their time strengthen the District's overall competitiveness. Hotels located in emerging neighborhoods create opportunities for visitors to experience more of the city while generating meaningful economic benefits for local businesses and residents.

Destination DC also recognizes the value of the project's stated commitment to continued community engagement and encourages ongoing partnerships that maximize opportunities for local hiring, workforce development and collaboration with Ward 7 and Ward 8 businesses.

We believe this development will enhance the visitor experience, support the District's tourism economy and contribute to the continued growth of the Bridge District and the adjacent Arts and Culture District. For these reasons, we respectfully encourage the Zoning Commission to approve the proposed project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elliott L. Ferguson, II".

Elliott L. Ferguson, II
President & CEO
Destination DC