



SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 5, 2007


Donna Hanousek
Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

Mrs. Hanousek:

Please find enclosed twenty (20) copies of the testimony to be given by Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis, President, Southeastern University, on Thursday, June 7th in support of case # 02-38A.

If you should have questions, please feel free to contact me on 202.646.0151. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Keyla Harrison
Executive Assistant to the President

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO.

02-38A (orig)

EXHIBIT NO.

41



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Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

Subject: Waterfront Planned Unit Development Modification Zoning
Commission Case No. 02-38A

Dear Members of the Zoning Commission:

I am Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis, President of Southeastern University in southwest Washington, D.C. Founded by the YMCA in 1879 and chartered by an Act of Congress in 1937, we are an accredited, private, non-profit university. We are the only institution of higher education located in the southwest quadrant of the city.

Our mission is to produce students with the exit competencies in business, technology and public administration that make them competitive in the marketplace. We believe that universities should participate in stimulating the economic development of their communities, but we also want our students to participate in the prosperity that is produced as a result.

We are excited about the redevelopment of the Waterfront property for many reasons.

First, many of our students, staff and faculty live, work and travel in the community. (Parenthetically, the Metro stop at the Waterfront project is named "Waterfront/SEU"). Housing faculty and staff near the university has always been an issue for us. The Waterfront project offers solutions to that problem.

Secondly, the re-opening of Fourth St. S.W., with its increased retail opportunities, will provide venues for our faculty and staff that need a bite to eat or to browse before or after class or work.

Thirdly, because we have degree programs in all aspects of business management and technology, and because we teach courses in retail mall management, real estate, property management, and financial management in our Center for Entrepreneurship, there are opportunities for our students to witness first-hand the practical application of the work which they are learning at the university. In fact, we are still true to our YMCA mission of providing a practical education for our students through internships or by having professionals in the field teach as adjuncts at the university.

The PUD before you has a set-aside for local businesses. We teach small business skills in our Center for Entrepreneurship and have contracts with various agencies to assist their small business prospects in being successful bidders.

I know the Forest City and Charles E. Smith development team. They are ethical, responsible, and serious about their commitments to the community. We look forward to working with them as partners in a community about which all of us care deeply.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you this evening.