

Zoning Commission 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC 20001 Kurt D. Newman, MD President and Chief Executive Officer knewman@childrensnational.org

111 Michigan Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20010-2970 Phone: 202-476-3761 Hospital: 202-476-5000 Fax: 202-476-3096 ChildrensNational.org

Re: Support for the Redevelopment of McMillan

My name is Dr. Kurt Newman and I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Children's National Medical Center ("**CNMC**"). I am writing on behalf of CNMC to express our strong support for the McMillan Redevelopment plan.

CNMC is the only exclusive provider of pediatric care in the metropolitan Washington area and has been serving the nation's children since 1871. A proven leader in the development and application of innovative new treatments for childhood illnesses and injury, CNMC's internationally recognized team of pediatric healthcare professionals care for more than 400,000 patients each year. Serving as an advocate for all children, CNMC is the largest non-governmental provider of pediatric care in the District of Columbia, providing more than \$46.2 million in uncompensated care.

Since 1977, CNMC has operated our primary hospital facility on Michigan Avenue directly across from the McMillan site and during much of that time we have observed with great interest the efforts by the District government to redevelop the site in a variety of ways. Our operations have expanded and grown over the years to our current level of a 303-bed facility which serves approximately 35,000 children and teens every year. It remains a long-standing desire of CNMC to find an appropriate and acceptable way of participating in the McMillan redevelopment given its close proximity to our campus and the smart, forward-thinking manner in which these new facilities have been designed. As with any successful healthcare organization, as our operations have continued to grow over the years; expansion, modernization, and upgrading of our facilities has always been and continues to be a challenge.

In recent years, our interest has been particularly piqued as we have discussed the project with members of the Vision McMillan Partners ("**VMP**") development team. The VMP team has shared with us the many updates and iterations that the site plan and development program have gone through as they have engaged in an extensive community engagement process over the past six years.

One of the most exciting ways that the development plan has evolved from CNMC's perspective is the expansion of the project's park and open space programming and specifically, the inclusion of a distinct group of parks, green and open spaces within the northern portion of the site next to the healthcare facilities. The addition of the areas referred to as the healing gardens as well as the park added to the top of the preserved

area referred to as Cell No. 14 have truly made these facilities world class. We have seen other Children's hospitals make find truly exciting successes incorporating well designed, inviting green and open spaces into their healing programs.

It is for all these reasons, and many more that CNMC continues to be highly interested in participating in McMillan and is happy to provide our strong support and endorsement of the current McMillan redevelopment plan. We believe this project has potential to significantly impact the quality level and delivery of healthcare in the District of Columbia and that, through the development of thoughtfully planned, state-of-the-art facilities that are fully integrated within the surrounding community, McMillan has the opportunity to be recognized as a model for where the future of healthcare is headed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Kurt Newman, MD President and Chief Executive Officer