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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210-S
Washington, D.C. 20001

May 10, 2016

zcsubmissions@dc.gov

Re: Letter in Support of Case No. 15-16

Dear Chairman Hood and Members of the Commission:

I am submitting this letter on behalf of the Rhode Island Avenue Main Street program, managed by the Friends of Rhode Island Avenue NE, to express our support for the above-referenced application for the mixed-use development proposed at 4th and Rhode Island Avenue. We are very excited to see this underutilized shopping center become a vibrant and active development that contributes to the Edgewood community. I have attended several community meetings and have heard MRP's presentation on the proposal. The entire community will benefit from the addition of residential space, including a net gain of affordable units, where none existed before. Our organization is particularly excited for the proposed retail uses, including the grocery store, gym and movie theater, and believe that those uses will serve the existing residents in this area as well as the new residents that will be living in this project. We have been, and continue to, work closely with Michael Skena and the rest of the MRP team to identify additional retailers that will enhance the neighborhood by meeting the needs of the community and creating jobs for area residents.

The property is located at a major Metrorail station and will further solidify the Rhode Island Avenue Main Street corridor as a place for people to go to for shopping, dining, and entertainment, rather than simply a place to go through on their way out of town.

The proposed project will be a vast improvement over existing conditions. MRP has actively solicited input from the community and I appreciate the work they have done to respond to the concerns that have been raised. I would ask the Commission to consider the support of Rhode Island Avenue Main Street, and approve this application.

Kyle Todd, Executive Director
Rhode Island Avenue Main Street

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.15-16
EXHIBIT NO.60