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SUPPORT: Case Number 18-13, CG Design,  
at 1530 1st St., SW (Sq. 656, Lot 53) - Ward 6.

I am a former chairperson of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8E and former chairperson of the United Planning Organization (UPO) - Ralph Waldo Petey Greene Community Service Center Community Board. I am in full support of Case Number 18-13, CG Design, at 1530 1st St., SW (Sq. 656, Lot 53) - Ward 6. The design and all aspects of this housing project is exactly what this city needs for low and extremely low-income residents. UPO's mission and goal has always been to uplift our impoverished residents, and UPO is the District's lead organization that champion causes for the indigent residents. This project further expresses its sincerity in uniting people with opportunities.

The area median income (AMI) in the District is approximately \$100,000 for a family of four, and \$76,000 for a family of one. This AMI is derived from the District and several counties in Maryland and Virginia, which includes some of the richest counties in the country, such as Arlington, Fairfax and Montgomery counties. The government is aware of the imbalance of the incomes, thereupon, has created programs, e.g., housing vouchers, inclusionary zoning, low-income housing tax credits and public housing. This UPO project is abiding by all laws. This project has been designed to accommodate as many as possible low-income residents who make 50% of the AMI, and extremely low residents who make 30% of the AMI. The structural design is appropriate for small and larger families, which most new apartments are designed to accommodate only single persons, one couple, or a family of one child or two children of the same sex.

In this city, it has been said that there are extortionists who approach some of the developers in hopes of a windfall. This commission probably knows better than I who the extortionists are. If anyone comes before you with the intent to personally benefit from any development, or under the guise of representing the community ought to be reported to the FBI. The most legitimate way to support the community is through a Community Benefit Agreement (CBA), not a frivolous lawsuit. Any other notions should raise eyebrows. One of the main complaints cited to oppose any development is gentrification. However, one of the issues that create gentrification is the AMI, therefore, to build anew in our communities could give the appearance of gentrifying. The AMI is calculated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) not the local government. This government is aware of such and that is why they have established the aforementioned programs to assist with housing.