

12 March 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL Chairman Anthony Hood 441 4th Street, NW Suite 200-S Washington, D.C. 20001 zcsubmissions@dc.gov

Re: Letter in Support of Case No. 18-19: Map Amendment to NHR Zone

Dear Chairman Hood and Members of the Commission:

I am submitting this letter to express my support for the above-referenced application for the Map Amendment for property on either side of Howard Road SE to the new Northern Howard Road ("NHR") Zone District. As Pastor at the Lighthouse Baptist Church located at 3109-A Martin Luther King, Jr, Avenue, South East, I am very excited to see this property have the opportunity to be developed with an exciting mix of uses. I believe the amendment's guarantee of increased affordable housing and enhanced building design, including the Design Review process, are important and positive features of the application. I have appreciated the applicant's efforts to reach out to the community, keep us updated on the plans for the property, and work to develop a project that is beneficial for them and the community.

The property is located almost immediately adjacent to the Anacostia Metrorail Station, and the increased density and mix of uses is appropriate for a site like this one. The related text amendment (Case 18-18) and this Map Amendment present an exciting opportunity for development in a largely vacant area, and I support the application in full.

The proposed NHR Zone will provide for increased density for more job opportunities, housing opportunities, and affordable housing. The NHR Zone will also require increased sustainability and enhanced building design. The developer has acted in good faith in negotiating with the community, and I would ask the Commission to consider my support and approve this application.

Sincerely,

Ricardo W. Payne, Pastor

ZONING COMMISSION