

February 21, 2009

Ms. Ruth Ann Miller
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 200/210-S
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Case No. 17889

Dear Ms. Miller:

At a properly noticed and a quorum present at the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4C meeting on February 10, 2009, a motion was presented by Commissioner Myers, seconded and passed unanimously **not** to support a special exception under Section 1553 to construct a new two story church on a vacant lot within the 16th Street Heights Overlay District in the R-1-B district at 4901 16th Street, NW (Square 2710, Lot 15).

Ms. Carolyn Brown, an attorney representing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints presented the Church's proposal to build a facility on the property located at 4901 16th Street, NW. The presentation included the architectural design and explanations from the architect on questions concerning the building structure and parking both below and above grade. According to the attorney, the proposed project conformed to the environmental impact study and the transportation study conducted by the District Department of Transportation.

Ms. Doreen Thompson, president of the Carter Barron East Neighborhood Association spoke on behalf of the residents. She indicated that the neighborhood had significant issues with the applicant's request for a special exception to construct a church on the property at 4901 16th Street, NW. Of particular concern to the community was increased vehicular traffic; parking; the size and scale of the proposed building; the size of the stake holders using the facility; hours of operation throughout the week; failure to provide adequate notification to the community and the lack of sensitivity on the part of the church to solicit community input; environmental impact as it relates to water runoff and air quality; possible structural damage to surrounding properties. Moreover, the size and scope of the proposed structure is not consistent with the District's Comprehensive Plan specifically Rock East Area Element.

The ANC 4C Commission took particular note that all homeowners who had been notified by mail of the project did not support the Church's proposal for a special exception to build a new church facility.

Based on the foregoing, ANC 4C respectfully requests that the Board of Zoning Adjustment give great weight to the Commission's position **not** to support the special exception application of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

Signed

Joseph Martin, Chair
SMD 4C09

Signed

Michael Yates, Secretary
SMD 4C01