



September 21, 2011
Catherine V. Buell, Esq.
Chair
Historic Preservation Review Board
1100 4th Street, SW Suite E650
Washington, DC 20024

Re: 2001 15th Street, NW, HPA #11-407, concept/new construction of nine-story apartment building – U Street Historic District

Dear Ms. Buell:

Meridian Hill Neighborhood Association (MHNA) has not taken a vote or adopted a formal position on the proposed construction project. While it appreciates that Jair Lynch Development (JLD) has presented to MHNA twice, on June 21 and September 22, 2011, we have not taken a position because JLD has not demonstrated that written effective outreach to immediate neighbors has been done and there has been adequate time for the neighbors to respond.

Some neighborhood residents have noted the merits of the project, including maintenance of affordable housing and support for the residents of the Paul Laurence Dunbar apartments. On the other hand, some of the affected residents who are aware of the project have expressed concerns about the lack of a setback from the street consistent with that of the Paul Laurence Dunbar apartments, the high glass-to-masonry ratio and the imposing nature of the building vis-à-vis the historic four-story rowhouses across the street and to the north of the proposed new construction.

Meridian Hill Neighborhood Association is a nonprofit neighborhood association dedicated to improving the community by strengthening relationships between neighbors, businesses, developers, schools, churches, local government and other neighborhood groups. Membership is open to all individuals residing within its boundaries. More information, including MHNA's boundaries and bylaws, can be found on its Web site at www.meridianhilldc.org.

Sincerely,

Brian Levy
President, MHNA

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Levy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end of the last name.

cc: Jair Lynch, Jair Lynch Development