Ms. Marnique Heath  
Chair, Historic Preservation Review Board  
1100 4th Street, SW, Suite E650  
Washington, DC 20024

Re: 501 C St. NE (HPA 17-427)

Dear Ms. Heath:

On July 12, 2017, at a duly noticed regularly scheduled monthly meeting, with a quorum of six out of six commissioners and the public present, this case came before ANC 6C. The commissioners voted 6-0 to give qualified support to the application as discussed below. (ANC 6C reviewed a 17-sheet set of revised drawings dated July 12, 2017. These represent significant modifications to the previous submissions reviewed in June.)

We believe the proposed glass-enclosed stairwell marks a significant improvement in the project concept. Unlike the previously proposed exterior elevator tower, the stair tower is lower than the building’s cornice line and thus materially less intrusive. The glass enclosure also creates less bulk and thus reduced impact on the historic building’s appearance.

At our suggestion, the applicant agreed to remove the proposed new window openings on the south elevation’s second and third floors (immediately west of the external staircase) depicted on sheet 16. These new openings would needlessly disrupt the rhythm of the façade’s fenestration.

ANC 6C appreciates the applicant’s desire to restore and rehabilitate the primary 1876 Italianate structure. We likewise commend the latest revision of the application showing not only the removal of paving from the public space along 5th St. and the full enclosure of this area with an iron fence and small pedestrian gate, but also the complete elimination of the earlier proposed roof deck atop the one-story rear additions.

Thank you for giving great weight to the views of ANC 6C.

Sincerely,

Karen Wirt  
Chair, ANC 6C