



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

May 27, 2021

Ms. Marnique Heath  
Chair  
Historic Preservation Review Board  
1100 4th Street SW, Suite E650  
Washington, DC 20024  
[historic.preservation@dc.gov](mailto:historic.preservation@dc.gov)

Mr. Frederick Hill  
Chair  
Board of Zoning Adjustment  
441 4th Street NW, Suite 210S  
Washington, DC 20001  
[bzasubmissions@dc.gov](mailto:bzasubmissions@dc.gov)

RE: 734 15th Street NW (HPRB #21-083 and BZA #20501)

Dear Chair Heath and Chair Hill,

At its regular meeting on May 12, 2021, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-1):

WHEREAS, the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream, the applicant for Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) application #20501, is seeking support for a special exception from the general penthouse regulations and an area variance from the general penthouse regulations to construct a penthouse addition and to establish a nightclub and restaurant use atop 730 and 734 15th Street NW, two existing 10-story and 12-story buildings located in the D-6 and White House Security Zones,

WHEREAS, the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream is seeking support as part of Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) concept application #21-083 for a penthouse addition and window and door replacement at the Walker Building at 734 15th Street NW, located in the Financial Historic District,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B, in May of 2021, reviewed in an online Zoom meeting the architectural plans, elevations, and color photographs, and received a presentation on the project using the materials submitted to HPRB for consideration at their meeting scheduled for May 27, 2021 and to the BZA for their public hearing scheduled for September 15, 2021,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B’s Land Use Committee (LUC) previously reviewed these plans on May 5, 2021 in an online Zoom meeting and did not find reason to outright oppose the project,

WHEREAS, the applicants presented a thoughtful and well-designed proposed addition to the structure at 734 15th Street that reinforces the building's existing Art Deco-period features and builds on its historic status rather than degrading it,

WHEREAS, the applicants noted that the U.S. Secret Service had approved the provisions for an eating and drinking facility on the penthouse level, as proposed, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the concept plans appear to be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the zoning regulations and zoning maps and will only have a marginal impact on adjacent properties in this context.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports BZA application #20501 as presented in May of 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, given the importance of this portion of 15th Street NW for both pedestrians and bicyclists, ANC 2B requests that the construction management team work closely with the District Department of Transportation to ensure safe and adequate facilities for both pedestrians and bicyclists – in both directions of travel – throughout and following the construction period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to ensure continuity between the 730 and 734 15th Street NW buildings, ANC 2B requests that the applicant works toward a thoughtful design for the metal grate below the penthouse-level bridge so as not to degrade the roofline of the historic 730 and 734 15th Street NW buildings.

Commissioners William Herbig ([2B05@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B05@anc.dc.gov)) and Robin Nunn ([2B03@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B03@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Robin Nunn  
Vice Chair