Shockoe Bottom Neighborhood Association 1548-B E. Main St Richmond, VA 23219

November 6, 2013

Mr. Mark Olinger
Director
Department of Planning and Development Review
City of Richmond
900 East Broad Street, Room 511
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Olinger:

The Shockoe Bottom Neighborhood Association fully supports the planned rezoning of Lorillard Building, LLC's properties at 2301-2329 and 2501-2517 East Main Street in Shockoe Bottom from M-1 to B-5.

The buildings and land have been vacant and severely under-utilized for too long. We understand that previous owners had attempted, but failed, to find commercial tenants for over a decade before the principals of Lorillard Building, LLC, Charles Macfarlane and Sam McDonald, purchased the properties. Rezoning the properties will allow immediate development of the buildings into apartments with flexibility to include retail and office. The conversion of this long vacant building into productive use helps complete this stretch of the vibrant neighborhood we are building, and the zoning fits with the immediate surrounding properties.

These developers have responsibly rehabbed and own projects in Shockoe Bottom including the Adam Craig House, Crump Double House, Enders Warehouse apartments, and the Power Plant building that houses ODELL Architects.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David Napier President

Shockoe Bottom Neighborhood Association

The **Shockoe** Partnership, Inc. 1553 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

11/05/2013

Mr. Rodney M. Poole Chairman Planning Commission City of Richmond 900 East Broad Street Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Chairman Poole,

The Shockoe Partnership Board of Directors, the successor organization to Historic Shockoe Partners (representing property owners in Shockoe Slip and Shockoe Bottom), strongly endorses Lorillard Building, LLC's request to rezone 2301-2331 E. Main Street and 2501-2517 E. Main Street from M-1 Industrial to B-5 Business zoning.

Our organization supports the owner's effort to place this historic property into productive use by allowing mixed use zoning flexibility for office, commercial and residential uses. We also appreciate and agree with these properties' change of zoning which is consistent with the Downtown Master Plan for this area and neighborhood of Downtown. The members of Lorillard Building, LLC, Charles Macfarlane and Sam McDonald, are well known to this organization and they have developed quality projects in the Shockoe Neighborhood through the years. (By way of disclosure, Charles Macfarlane is a member of The Shockoe Partnership and sits on the Executive Committee.)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carmina Drummond

President

The Shockoe Partnership