November 20, 2013

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6143

Dear Chairman Issa:

Enclosed is the District of Columbia’s Height Master Plan final evaluation and recommendations for balanced modifications to the Height of Buildings Act. The District was careful to consider the effects of these recommended changes on the federal interest inside and outside the confines of the L’Enfant City. I believe these changes respect the federal interest within the L’Enfant City while also supporting the mutual federal and local interest in a robust, vibrant and economically stable District of Columbia.

By giving the District the flexibility to establish new maximum building heights as detailed by our final recommendations, these modifications would ensure the District can expand our tax base and improve services to our residents while preserving our social and economic diversity with affordable housing and other key infrastructure investments.

Thank you for the Committee’s consideration of the District’s final recommendations and our supporting analysis. If you have any questions about the Height Master Plan, please contact Harriet Tregoning, Director of the DC Office of Planning, at (202) 442-7636 or harriet.tregoning@dc.gov.

Sincerely,

Vincent C. Gray

cc: The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, Congresswoman, District of Columbia
L. Preston Bryant, Jr., Chairman, National Capital Planning Commission
Harriet Tregoning, Director, DC Office of Planning