TO:

Temple Terrace Board of Adjustment/Variance

FROM:

Karen M Waugh, Resident of Temple Terrace

DATE:

February 28, 2024

RE:

Tatiana Toumbeva - Variance at 1119 W. River Drive

I write to encourage your consent to the variance sought by Tatiana Toumbeva at the property where her home is to be built at 1119 W. River Drive, one mile south of my own home.

We have been residents of Temple Terrace since 2003, first on 113th Avenue and now - for the past 9 years - at 504 Bon Aire Avenue in the home my uncle built in 1956. Our own appreciation of this city and its people go back more than 60 years, but the Chichkovs have lived in Temple Terrace a year longer than we have.

I have known Tatiana Toumbeva and her family for the past 8 years, having worked for her parents in one of their local businesses for 5 years. Although Tatiana, like her mother and brother, had graduated USF and moved from Temple Terrace to Orlando by the time I met the Chichkovs, we frequently met when she was here for family gatherings. I found her to be a highly intelligent and educated young woman and loving young mother. Having grown up in Temple Terrace herself, I understand why she wants to return to raise her own children here. As a grandparent, I know being closer to her family will be best for all of them.

This entire family I know to be hard working, highly educated, kind and generous with strong ties to Temple Terrace and their neighbors. Tatiana grew up in the family home on River Ridge Drive, which – like the variance sought property – sits upon the river edge. I know she and Blake will appreciate and care for her new home's location on our beautiful natural river front just as well as her parents have these past 20 years.

This is exactly the type of young family our city needs to grow. Please grant this variance and allow them to build their house. I only wish they could build on my street as I would truly enjoy having them as near neighbors.

Sincerely, Yaran M Wang

Karen M. Waugh

504 Bon Aire Avenue