

EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

June 21, 2002

Anish Kumar Director, Urban Design Hillier Fax 215-636-9989

Dear Anish:

I appreciate the opportunity to discuss how you have contributed to the important work of assuring that the plans of the Capital City Redevelopment Corporation for the revitalization of Trenton, our state capital, are relevant, practical and further our vision.

Looking back on the relatively short time we have worked together, I am struck by what a productive and constructive period it has been. As I reflect on why that happened, I realize that you very quickly learned about us, specifically what our vision was for the future. You respected what we had achieved and what we were committed to doing. In a very creative, practical and tactful way, you brought your experience and knowledge -- and I should add talent -- to our need to identify specific development opportunities and find ways to move them forward.

Your critical analysis and your sense of place made it possible for us to see the capital district in segments that captured unique historic and esthetic characteristics as well as addressed market considerations. Building on the implementation strategy you and your team captured so well in a few colorful sheets of paper, we were able to focus in on the key issue of how to make the case for opening the capital district to the Delaware River. This has been a long-standing goal, but again your analysis and creative design that also included a quite remarkable sensitivity to what transportation planners would think and skeptics would ask has made it possible for us to actually achieve acceptance of this key improvement.

While I think of our relationship as collaboration, I must recognize that it has been productive because of what you brought to it. We wanted to move beyond plans. You not only understood quickly what we wanted to do, but you had the design skills, conceptual ability, basic intelligence, respect for our goals and values together with excellent presentation materials to make our joint effort highly worthwhile. I look forward to making the most of what we have begun.

Sincerely,

Ingrid W. Reed*

Director, Eagleton New Jersey Project

*For the purpose of this letter, my title is Chair of the Board, Capital City Redevelopment Corporation.

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