I am writing in support of the Washington Street Revitalization Project. As Chairman of the Hoboken Planning Board our team has had many opportunities over the years to work on redevelopment zones throughout our community and each time we are able to bring one of these older areas of our city back to life it has an incredibly positive impact on our whole city. We are only 1 square mile so each and every little piece of Hoboken is very quickly connected to the other and each neighborhood has a dramatic impact on the greater whole.

While we are a city of neighborhoods there is one constant that runs through all of Hoboken from North to South and that is Washington Street, our main street. Our Master plan talks about Washington Street being the economic hub of our entire city and that the pedestrian friendly nature enhances our whole community. I can easily envision that the implementation of this very comprehensive Washington Street Revitalization Project would have a wholesale transformative impact on our entire city. Our town has experienced an incredible transformation from a waterfront industrial commercial hub to one that is primarily residential in only the last couple of decades and our main commercial street has not kept up with the needs of our present day community. We have made some upgrades to our infrastructure where needed, but it has never been on the scale and scope of what is proposed here.

I urge you to support this project and help us to upgrade our entire city of 50,000+ residents with the revitalization of Washington Street.

Gary M. Holtzman
Hoboken Planning Board - Chairman