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**To Whom It May Concern,**

I am writing to express my strong support for Mr. Dwight Hayes and *Hayes Place*, a much-needed event space that serves as a vital hub for our community. As the Executive Director of Mentoring Positives, a local nonprofit organization dedicated to uplifting youth and families through mentoring, athletics, and social entrepreneurship, I understand firsthand the value of having safe, welcoming, and culturally relevant spaces where people can gather, celebrate, and grow.

Hayes Place fills a critical gap in our community offering an affordable, accessible venue that reflects the needs and spirit of the people it serves. Whether it's hosting weddings, business events, family reunions, community forums, or youth-focused programming, Hayes Place provides a setting where community connections are built and strengthened.

In a time when Black-owned businesses and community-based institutions often face systemic barriers, it is imperative that we support and champion places like Hayes Place. Mr. Hayes' vision is more than just a business it's a commitment to community empowerment, economic development, and cultural celebration. His leadership and investment in this space demonstrate the kind of forward-thinking and grassroots entrepreneurship that our neighborhoods need more of.

I respectfully urge this committee to recognize the value Hayes Place brings and to support Mr. Hayes in any capacity possible whether through funding opportunities, referrals, or partnerships. Spaces like Hayes Place don't just host events they create memories, build community pride, and foster resilience.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

With appreciation,

*Will Green*

Executive Director, Mentoring Positives