

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of Friendship Hospital for Animals' proposal to build a second floor addition. As the owner of two dogs with cancer, I have been coming to FHA for nearly five years, at a minimum of once every three weeks -- and sometimes every week. Not once have I ever had any trouble finding a parking space. Nine times out of ten, I am able to park in the facility's lot. Otherwise, there always seems to be a spot right out front.

The inside of the clinic is a lot busier than the street outside, and at prime times, the waiting area can get very crowded. Those of us with oncology patients are often there for hours at a time, and it can be difficult to find a peaceful corner where dogs aren't trying to play with one another or investigate the kitty carriers. On those occasions when an emergency case rushes into an already crowded space, you can imagine how chaotic things can get.

It would be so nice for those of us who come to FHA for cancer treatment to have a quieter area to wait for our dogs and consult with the oncology team away from the hustle and bustle below. I know it would also relieve a lot of the congestion in the main waiting area and make it easier for everyone involved when an emergency comes in.

We love our doctors and staff and FHA, but in the five years I've been coming there, it's becoming clear that the staff and patient base have outgrown the current setup.

Sincerely,

Lorraine DiRienzo  
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BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO. 18435  
EXHIBIT NO. 36

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