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Susan F. Boyd
Stephen M. Boyd
4400 Cathedral Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20016

June 18, 2013

Lloyd J. Jordan, Esq.
Chairperson
D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: BZA Application No. 18586 (Expedited Review)

Dear Mr. Jordan and Members of the Board:

We are writing in opposition to the above application for a special exception to the Wesley Heights Zoning Overlay .

We have lived at the above address in Wesley Heights for 43 years. We were actively involved in the neighborhood process some 20 years ago that led to the adoption of the zoning overlay. This process involved the participation of a large number of Wesley Heights residents, including many intensive neighborhood meetings and discussions to seek a solution to the significant overbuilding that threatened our neighborhood at that time.

After a great deal of research and detailed consideration of proposals for a zoning overlay as well as an alternative proposal for historic designation, the neighborhood came together in solid support for the zoning overlay that has served us well over the years since it was adopted. The overlay does not prohibit building or place severe restrictions on expansion while preserving the openness and relatively uniform streetscapes of Wesley Heights.

We believe strongly that the overlay should be complied with by home owners and, when necessary, enforced by DC zoning authorities. Home owners should not be allowed to begin construction on additions that are in violation of the overlay with the expectation that they can subsequently obtain special

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exceptions such as the one now requested for the expansion at 4351 Klinge Street, NW. Without repeating the specific construction aspects that are not in accord with the overlay, suffice it to say that the special exception requested in the above application would create an insidious precedent that could lead to the significant weakening of the overlay's requirements and the excessive expansion and over building that the overlay was designed to prevent.

We would attend the June 25, 2013 hearing in person except that we will be out of town on that day. Nevertheless, we appeal to the good judgment and fairness of the Board and request that you deny the application for a special exception.

Sincerely yours,

Susan F. Boyd
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Stephen M. Boyd
Stephen M. Boyd
First President of the
Wesley Heights Historical Society