

DC Zoning Commission

Case 04-36

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April 13, 2006

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Madam and Sirs:

I am sorry that I cannot attend the April 13, 2006 meeting in order to present this material to you personally. I appreciate your taking the time to consider the following points.

My husband and I live near the corner of 17th and Euclid streets. I'm delighted to see all the new construction, restoration, and businesses in our neighborhood. I understand and respect Dorchester House Associates' reasons for wanting to provide new rental units and parking to complement the new units.

However I must strongly oppose the petitioner's proposal.

I fully agree with the ANC report that the property should not be rezoned. The proposed structure faces 17th Street, and is intended to be accessed from 17th Street. Why should the petitioner be treated any differently than other parties building along 17th Street? The property was given its current classification for a reason.

Also, in the previous meeting on this subject, there was a lot of talk about what the new structure would look like "from street level." It is important to remember that we are not always at street level, standing on 17th street gawking straight up. We may be on the upper floors of our homes—or on our rooftops, as my husband and I often enjoy in the summer... it's great for watching fireworks on the 4th of July. From these vantage points it is easy to see which structures fit into the Reed-Cooke and Adams Morgan neighborhoods, and which do not. Any structure higher than the recommended 50 feet would look incongruous and oppressive.

Again, as a neighbor of Dorchester House, I hope that the petitioner can propose a building or extension that will provide new rental properties and parking for our neighborhood. I would like to see both our neighborhood and the Dorchester House Associates profit from a moderate extension to the existing property; a less extreme addition that fits within the spirit of the law and the spirit of the neighborhood.

I am proud to live in a city that takes neighborhoods and community seriously. Please reject the petitioners' proposal because special treatment for this organization is unwarranted and unwanted by their neighbors.

Sincerely,

Sarah Cartwright

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EXHIBIT No. 116
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