

19 January, 2009

To: FAX 727 6072

To all Members

Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia

Ref: Wisconsin Development Plan

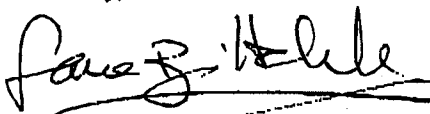
Dear Members of the Zoning Commission,

I have lived in Cleveland Park for almost forty years. It is a tranquil, garden filled residential neighborhood. There are many schools for preschoolers to twelfth graders, many of whom walk to school or ride bikes daily.

I have attended meetings regarding the Wisconsin Avenue Development. It is an ambitious plan, more appropriate for suburbia than for this area, so I do have concerns, particularly regarding traffic and the safety of our residents, especially children. The proposed shopping center is zoned for neighborhood shopping, but the size and scheme is much greater than local needs.

- The current traffic situation will worsen on our streets, including Wisconsin Avenue. It will be even more difficult to park near our homes. "Bumps" and traffic lights at Norton, Ordway and Idaho will create even bigger backups on Wisconsin tempting drivers to rush through the neighborhood. Through traffic should be limited to the principal cross streets i.e. Porter, Cathedral and Wisconsin.
- Parking for the new buildings does not appear to satisfy DC regulations, whether underground or on street.  
The existing Giant parking lot is not sufficient even now at night or on weekends. We are saturated with restaurants and bars. The developers should formally agree to limit their numbers to existing ones. We do not wish to become another Connecticut avenue of restaurants, pool halls or bars.
- I would like the Commission to make some adjustments so that all can benefit from the project. I believe that to preserve our Historic District, quality of life and safety they would be relatively small.

Sincerely,



Jane Biltchik

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