COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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January 6, 1999

District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 - 4th Street, N.W.
2nd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001

I am writing with regard to today's case (#16407) which concerns the Medlink Hospital's application to increase its total number of nursing home beds. I am unable to support this application until a number of outstanding issues concerning Medlink's relationship with its immediate neighbors are resolved in a timely and appropriate manner.

I concur with the position taken by the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association (SPNA) as set forth in the January 4, 1999 letter to the BZA drafted by Mr. Drury Tallant, Chair of the SPNA's Land Use Committee. I am concerned about those unresolved issues raised by the SPNA, which include the failure of Medlink to adhere to past agreements made with regard to parking and the neglect of an historic townhouse on its property - two issues which have direct adverse effects on the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhood. Particularly troubling is Medlink's noncompliance with a BZA order issued in 1991 (case #15542) that required Medlink to open its underground garage, thereby freeing up already limited parking for surrounding residents. It is my understanding that the parking garage remains closed, and I would ask the BZA to take this situation into serious consideration as it look's at Medlink's latest BZA application.

Finally, because Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A did not have sufficient quorum to officially consider Medlink's application in December of 1998, I would suggest that the BZA allow the full, newly elected ANC 6A, which will include a new Commissioner in the affected Single Member District, to re-consider the application.

I appreciate your consideration of my testimony today.

Sincerely,

Sharon Ambrose

Sharon Ambrose
Councilmember - Ward 6

BZA
CASE No. 16407
EXHIBIT No. 33

Board of Zoning Adjustment
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