St. James Parish
Capitol Hill 222 EIGHTH STREET, N.E., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002 • 546-1746

THE REVEREND RICHARD E. DOWNING
Rector

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

00 SEP 14 AM 10:00

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid, Chairwoman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street, NW Room 201
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Reid and Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment:

I write to add the voice of St. James' Parish to those of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A, the Capitol Hill Restoration Society, the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association and the Coalition for Sensible Development on Capitol Hill to request that you and the Board reopen the case regarding Application Number 16407 and the Request for Modification of Order filed on April 21, 2000. St. James' Parish is the abutting property owner and we wish to request "Party Status" if the case is reopened.

We do not believe that the Board of Zoning Adjustment knows that its original order was never obeyed by the Capitol Hill Group and that the modification requested, at least at this moment, can not be complied with by the Capitol Hill Group because the 176 space underground parking garage has never been used for parking since the Board of Zoning Adjustment ordered that it be opened and in use in October 1999. On August 24, at least twenty interested neighbors including the President of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society, the Co-Chair of the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association, and the Rector of St. James' Parish visited the underground parking lot. At least, one third of the parking spaces in the underground level one were being utilized for storage of such items: wheelchairs, hospital beds, desks, bookcases, washing machines, and a spare sink or two. The remaining two levels of underground parking are blocked off and can not be used due to groundwater seepage through the walls of the garage. We believe that it is important for the Board of Zoning Adjustment to know these things and others before any modifications of its Order Number 16407 is decided.

Thank you for your service to the people of the District of Columbia and I look forward to the opportunity to address the Board at an open hearing on this matter soon.

Sincerely yours,

Richard E. Downing

Enclosures

BZA
Case No. 16407
Exhibit No. 48

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16407
EXHIBIT NO.48