September 18, 2000

'00 SEP 18 A10:18

OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid, Chairperson
c/o Jerrily R. Kress,
FAIA Director, Office of Zoning
441 4th St., NW,
Suite 210 South
Washington, D.C. 20001

16407

Dear Ms. Reid:

I request that you reopen a hearing on the parking situation associated with the Medlink Hospital at 7th and Massachusetts Ave., NE. Last year, residents were dismayed to discover that parking spaces along 7th Street, NE, which had been available for Ward 6 residential parking, had been replaced by 3-hour limited parking. At the time, we were not aware of why this had been done. We now find out that the Medlink Hospital requested that their off-street parking requirements be reduced from 276 to 200. This request was never "noticed" to the neighborhood, or even, it appears, to the ANC. Residents were thus deprived of their right to object to this change.

Medlink has two parking lots, which even now are never full. In addition, the Medlink Hospital has a 150-space underground parking garage, which should be able to accommodate their parking needs, **if the garage were available. In granting the request, the BZA required the Medlink fully open its garage, which has never been done.** In hindsight, it could be speculated that Medlink, knowing its garage was not adequate and not available, believed it could substitute by restricting on-street parking in such a way that residents effectively would be unable to use those spaces, thus freeing them up for its employees.

Whatever the reasoning, the results are indisputable. The loss of these spaces has deprived the neighborhood of a considerable number of parking spaces, which are sorely needed for daytime parking for residents. A 3-hour limitation means that residents cannot leave their cars during the day and take public transportation to work without running the risk of tickets.

Since this action was taken without proper notice, I urge you to reopen the hearing so that residents, represented by the ANC, can have the opportunity to weigh in on this matter. Parking is an especially urgent matter now in light of the planned development of the hospital site for residential use.

Jean M. Frane

Jean M. Frane
713 Massachusetts Ave., NE
202-544-5726

BZA
Case No. 16407
Exhibit No. 50

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16407
EXHIBIT NO.50

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: Jerrily Kress

Organization: office of Zoning

FAX Number: 202-727-6072

Phone Number:

OFFICE OF PESTICIDE PROGRAMS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
SEP 18 AM 10:18
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16407

FROM: Jean M. Frane

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Number of pages, including coversheet: 2

Message: