2510 FOXHALL ROAD
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20007

February 2, 2000

Ms. Jerrily R. Kress
Director
Office of Zoning
Suite 210
441 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF ZONING
00 FEB 29 AM 11:48

Re: Case No. 16559

Dear Ms. Kress,

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the proposal to move the Field School from its present location to the Cafritz estate on Foxhall Road. I'm doing this because I firmly believe that moving the school to this location would exacerbate a traffic problem which is already horrendous. (I dare say that Foxhall Road is already one of the most -- if not the most -- heavily trafficked two lane roads in the District.)

Anyone who lives on Foxhall Road, or even on roads intersecting it, knows how difficult it is to cope with the ever increasing flow of traffic. In my case, and I am far from alone, it often takes several minutes to exit onto Foxhall from my driveway and things are only going to get worse when George Washington University takes over Mount Vernon College and starts busing in hundreds of students -- to say nothing of the cars bearing other students, faculty, visitors, etc.

As for the Belgian Embassy located directly across from the Cafritz estate, the Ambassador has a limited amount of parking available on his grounds and when he entertains a large number of people for receptions his guests must park on W Street and then walk up Foxhall Road, protected only by orange markers to separate them from oncoming cars and trucks. In that case only a lane and a half is available for the passing

BZA
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traffic, and with the new Spanish Embassy, which is nearing completion next to the Belgians, the situation will get even worse and more dangerous given the limited amount of parking space that will be available there.

Of course I have nothing against the Field School, which deservedly has an excellent reputation, but locating it in a residential area, especially one with existing problems of traffic congestion, would be, I believe, a mistake.

I have seen the plans which have been made by the Field School to deal with its flow of traffic to and from the school but I remain convinced that particularly during the morning and afternoon rush hours, there is bound to be a back-up of traffic when the cars and/or buses either leave off students or pick them up.

I only ask that you review the proposal very carefully, keeping in mind the attendant problems that will be created if it is approved.

Sincerely,

William McC. Blair, Jr.