ANC 3F Forest Hills/North Cleveland Park
Phil Kogan, SMD 3F01
Karen Perry, SMD 3F02
Robert Maudlin, SMD 3F03
David Bardin, SMD 3F04
Doug Mitchell, SMD 3F05
Phil Heinrich, SMD 3F06
Duane Fitzgerald, SMD 3F07

'00 OCT 10 P2:35

OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OCT 6 2000

By Facsimile; Original by Mail

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
Suite 210
441 4th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) Application 16611, Edmund Burke School – Request for Continuance

Dear Ms. Reid:

This is a formal request for a continuance of the hearing on the subject application until November 15, 2000. Additional time is needed by ANC 3F and the community affected by the subject application to prepare a response. A hearing on this application is currently scheduled for October 24.

Sincerely,

Phil Kogan
ANC 3F01

'00 OCT 10 P2:35
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF ZONING

cc: Phil Feola - Shaw Pittman

BZA
Case No. 16611
Exhibit No. 33

P.O. Box 39290 Washington, D.C. 20016-9290
362-6120 (voice)
686-7237 (fax)

#33

not uncommon for these residents to wait five minutes to travel 100 feet due to Burke cars blocking the public alley and Upton Street. The addition of a police officer on Upton Street has been ineffective in reducing traffic gridlock. The school's traffic plan also may present a fire code violation.

Increased Noise:
Burke's expansion will significantly increase the noise in what is a residential neighborhood (not "high density" as stated in the school's expansion.) From the increase of student and traffic noise, the addition of a rooftop recreation area will also present unsuitable noise levels for the quiet neighborhood. The school expansion plan also predicts a greater noise level in the evening than during the day, which is of great concern to the neighbors.

Environmental:
The Burke expansion plan calls for the grading and removal of approximately 4,000 square feet of green space to create a side yard for parking and car queuing. There is a serious threat to several mature trees not on school property, including a giant oak tree owned by the District of Columbia. Of serious importance, the side yard abuts an Upton Street home. There is a shared mature tree on the property line and the owner has not given permission for this tree's removal to create the parking and side yard. This could be a legal issue for the school in obtaining enough parking and constructing the side yard.

Traffic queuing and increased cars also present an increase of air pollution.

Inadequate Event Parking & Too Many Nighttime Events:
Currently, the school has at least four nighttime events per month (not including sporting events) that create parking and traffic havoc because the school has a total lack of event parking. People attending Burke School's evening events park in front of Upton Street residences, therefore the Upton residents who rely on street parking do not have parking. In addition, they block the public alley and traffic on Upton Street. Burke's expansion plan includes a 150-seat auditorium so that the school may focus on the performing arts. The addition of evening events presents a serious problem and will increase evening traffic, noise and problems with parking.

Other Relevant Matters:
Burke School currently is operating under direct violation of the 1983 BZA order for student enrollment. The school's plan to increase staffing 100 %, but only increase student enrollment by 30 % is dubious. The school has a serious credibility issue.

The expansion of Howard University Law School and the Levine School along with the reopening of Hillwood Museum have significantly increased traffic and congestion on Upton Street and in the public alley. The addition of a Burke School expansion may be the proverbial "straw that breaks the camel's back" creating traffic gridlock and ruining a residential neighborhood.

Thank you for your review of my application for party status.

Sincerely,

Jodie P. Smolik