GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jerrily R. Kress
Director, Office of Zoning

FROM: Kenneth G. Laden
Associate Director for Transportation Planning

DATE: May 11, 2001

SUBJECT: Millennium Georgetown Partners – Georgetown Incinerator Site
BZA Application 16702

This is in response to a letter from the Board of Zoning Adjustment dated May 3, 2001 requesting comment from the Department as to whether traffic from the proposed Millennium Georgetown Partnership project and the new George Washington University Hospital building will create additional traffic congestion in the vicinity of Washington Circle.

Washington Circle receives traffic from several streets, including Pennsylvania Avenue, K Street, New Hampshire Avenue and 23rd Street. These are major commuter streets and serve several major institutions and employment centers. In our comments related to BZA Application #16389 – Special Exception for the further processing to an approved campus plan to construct a new hospital on the campus of the George Washington University, we indicated that the new hospital would generate additional traffic in the neighborhood. We also recommended traffic mitigation measures that we believe would reduce the impact of this anticipated traffic.

Similarly, the proposed Millennium Georgetown Partners project will generate additional traffic related to the housing, retail, hotel and entertainment elements of the project. However, we believe that the traffic generated by the retail, hotel and entertainment portions of the project will not impact peak hour traffic in the Georgetown – Washington Circle area. Similarly, we do not believe that the traffic generated by the 28 residential units would impact traffic congestion or the level of service on lower K Street or at Washington Circle.

BZA
Case No. 16702
Exhibit No. 76

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16702
EXHIBIT NO.76

With respect to potential traffic mitigation measures, the Department is currently working with a task force to develop recommendations to modify traffic controls in the M Street, K Street and Wisconsin Avenue corridors in Georgetown. The types of changes being evaluated include new traffic signals and new lane designations. These modifications could be useful if traffic congestion were to worsen on K Street. However, specific recommendations will not be known until the final report is approved later this summer.