Charles and Sharon Houy
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17 March 2002

Government of the District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment
Office of Zoning
441 4th St. N.W.
Suite 210-S
Washington DC 20001

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Re: Application Number 16852, Application of St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School

We, Charles J. and Sharon A. Houy, hereby request to appear and participate as a party for the 16 April 2002 proceeding before the board reference to Application Number 16852.

(a) Names: Charles J. and Sharon A. Houy.
(b) Request to appear and participate as a party at the 16 April 2002 proceeding.
(c) We will appear as opponents of the application.
(d) We will not appear through legal counsel.
(e) Our request for party status should be granted on the following basis:

(1) We reside at 4922 Ashby St. N.W., adjacent to the subject property.

(2) We are owners of 4922 Ashby St. N.W. and have been such for over 18 years.

(3) Our property is adjacent to the subject property and our house is 11.5 feet from property line of subject property. Our patio is 3 feet from the subject property. We are one of only two properties adjacent to the subject property.

(4) Should the Board approve the application, my household will suffer siginificant environmental and economic losses. The current usage of the property is a very low occupation, quiet and occasional evening use property.

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 54

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.54

The application proposes turning it into a 5-day a week, high-density, noisy property with associated heavy traffic. We have four basic concerns:

- Traffic: Ashby St. is in effect a one lane road, with parking on both sides. Currently, any car confronting another car traveling in the opposite direction results in one car having to pull over and wait for the other car to pass. Any additional traffic will exacerbate this situation.

- Noise: We live in a peaceful setting that is only disturbed by the evening and weekend arrival and departure of cars for sessions at the current, low use institute. The noise of those cars before and after sessions is tremendous and it gives us a feeling of what it will be like on a daily basis for the school. The additional noise of some 60 students and their busses will have a significant impact on the environment and quality of life for my household. It will add loud noise very close to my house.

- Safety: Regarding the traffic, we are very concerned about related safety issues. We have a young child and we fear she will be hit by one of these cars. Moreover, as a homeowner with a swimming pool, I am very concerned about the liability I will face with so many young people next door every day.

- Economic Loss: While having a quality school in one's neighborhood is a plus for resale value, having it right next door - eliminating any privacy for the adjacent homes - will have an adverse impact on our property values.

We respectfully request the Board give us every consideration for party status on the issue of Application Number 16852.

Thank you for your consideration.

Charles J. Houy

Sharon A. Houy