re: BZA Case 16115

2827 Hurst Terrace, NW
Washington, DC 20016

July 15, 2002

To Whom it May Concern:

We, the undersigned, grew up on Hurst Terrace. Our family moved there in 1942 and our 95 year old mother still lives there. We are members of the Palisades Citizens Association. We visit at least monthly and help to maintain the property. We also keep a car there which is used to take our mother to doctors' appointments, physical therapy, etc. We are greatly concerned about the tremendous increase in traffic in recent years, particularly about the enormous increase in large vehicles such as SUV's, used to transport children to the Montessori school on Hurst Terrace.

There are several areas of concern:

1) The school is a large traffic-generating business in a residential neighborhood. This is simply not appropriate.

2) The school's presence poses a number of safety issues:
--At least twice a day, it would be very difficult to get emergency vehicles through; we have had personal experience of having a fire engine, as well an ambulance, needed twice in the past 13 months. Parking is allowed on both sides of the street and when there is a line of parents' vehicles, in addition, at the Montessori school, it would be impossible for a fire engine to get through.
--In the course of maintaining the house, it has been difficult for contractors to get in and out of the driveway as the house is directly opposite the school. We have had problems scheduling maintenance work with at least one contractor, who after some bad experiences, will now only come when it's not pick-up or drop-off time at the Montessori school.

3) Our mother is disabled and has difficulty getting in and out of the house and in and out of the car and becomes anxious if she has to go out for appointments during the pick-up and drop-off times. This presents challenges, particularly in scheduling appointments with medical specialists.

4) With the planned change of the entrance to Key School there is a chance to return to the low traffic level which existed before the first exception was granted for the Montessori school.

This is not a personal issue. The Allans have been good neighbors and pleasant and helpful to our mother, especially as it became increasingly difficult for her to do things like bring her trash cans in after trash collection. But, it is an issue of business interests which are in direct conflict with the interests of homeowners in a residential neighborhood.

Yours sincerely,

Gene Cohen Tweraser Karen Cohen Holmes

Gene Cohen Tweraser and Karen Cohen Holmes

BZA
Case No. 16915
Exhibit No. 74

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16915
EXHIBIT NO.74