BZA #16970

I am Steve Haas

I have lived less than 200 feet from NCRC at 3200 Highland Place for 17 years.

I am a physician. I have 4 children and 2 grandchildren.

I am again in the unfortunately familiar position of appearing before yet another agency to help defend my neighborhood and my property against the relentless expansion plans of NCRC. I continue to spend enormous amounts of time, effort and money, along with my neighbors, because we have been betrayed by the specious manipulation of the numbers in previous representations of the school.So now we have a dangerous, congested, disruptive traffic flood. Look at the photos and videos. They are consistent and are not staged.

I am personally affected in my efforts to navigate the street during the NCRC rush hours.. On occasion,for instance, I have been trying to get to the hospital to answer a call and have been told to "just wait a few minutes, these people have been waiting in line". This from a group of Dayglo–vested representatives of the school, whose credentials and authority remain unidentified to us. These are the same people who we also see allowing drivers to remove their passengers on the traffic side of the street and who do nothing about their disregard for the STOP signs. They *do* manipulate the traffic flow in an inconsistent pattern that appears to correlate with impending hearing dates of this Board.

I am asked to buy the justification that there have been no significant accidents or injuries due to the traffic. If you subscribe to that argument, then don't get your blood pressure checked and don't immunize your children. Then I am asked to believe that making Highland a one-way street will allow more traffic without adverse consequence. Thus another layer of confusion and inconvenience to accommodate further stress on the already saturated infrastructure. If it wasn't overloaded already, why would the consultants see a need to try out a different pattern to accommodate the proposed addition of cars?
And, as in previous NCRC petitions, none of this is of any redeeming value to the community which is being asked to allow the expansion as a cooperative "Good Neighbor" venture.

In fact, this school is an overflowing bathtub We are told that adding more water will not have a detrimental effect. We're told that the solution is to paint, it, to turn it around, and that to change the faucets to the other end, etc. etc. will alleviate the situation. It won't work. You can't compress water.

Join your colleagues from other agencies, boards, and commissions that have rejected the proposals from NCRC on multiple other grounds.

Steven S. Haas M.D.
11/10/03

BZA
Case No. 16970
Exhibit No. 301

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16970
EXHIBIT NO.301