7/13/03

CHAIRMAN GEOFFREY GRIFFIS
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
441 4TH STREET, NW, SUITE 210-S
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

DEAR CHAIRMAN GRIFFIS:

I AM A SINGLE PARENT LIVING IN ANACOSTIA IN SOUTHEAST DC WITH TWO CHILDREN ATTENDING THE EDMUND BURKE SCHOOL ON UPTON STREET NW. THIS SPECIAL SMALL SCHOOL HAS TAUGHT BY EXAMPLE RESPECT AND GOOD CITIZENSHIP AS WELL AS PROVIDING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE STUDENTS CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER AND LOVE TO LEARN.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO DC RESIDENTS LIKE ME (THIRTY YEARS) THAT THE BOARD OF ZONE GIVE IMPARTIAL AND RESPONSIBLE CONSIDERATION TO THE NEW BUILDING PLANS FOR THE SCHOOL. CHANGE IS DIFFICULT, BUT UNFORTUNATELY SOME NEIGHBORS WILL NEVER BE OPEN TO CHANGE.. EDMUND BURKE HAS REALLY MADE AND EFFORT TO MAKE THE BUILDING IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ADDRESS THE LOCAL RESIDENTS' CONCERNS, BUT THERE ARE A FEW WHO ARE NEVER SATISFIED. IF YOU VISITED THE SCHOOL YOU WILL SEE THAT THE SPACE IS A PROBLEM . THE PROPOSED PLAN WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PARKING, SPACE SO THAT STUDENT DO NOT FEEL COMPELLED TO SEEK SPACE OUT DOORS DUE TO THE CROWDED CONDITIONS AND A PLAN TO REDUCE STUDENT TRAFFIC IN THE ALLEY.

DURING MY MANY TRIPS TO THE SCHOOL FOR EVENTS I HAVE NOTED THAT PARKING ON UPTON IS WITH OUT ZONE 2 HOUR PARKING.. BY ESTABLISHING ZONE PARKING YOU WILL REDUCE THE TRAFFIC THAT RUSHES THROUGH THE ALLEY AND REDUCE CONSIDERABLE THE PARKING ON THAT STREET. I BELIEVE THIS SIMPLE CHANGE WILL MAKE A CONSIDERABLE IMPACT ON THE TRAFFIC THAT THE NEIGHBORS COMPLAIN ABOUT.

I AM AWARE THAT AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF THE ZONING BROAD HAS PERSONAL BIAS AGAINST THE BURKE PROPOSAL AND HAS MADE UP HIS MIND WITHOUT A FAIR HEARING OF THE PROJECT. THIS STATEMENT IS BASED UPON AN OVER-HEARD COMMENT MADE BY THE BOARD MEMBER SPEAKING TO A NEIGHBOR OUTSIDE THE HEARING DURING A BREAK IN THE HEARING. THEREFORE, I HOPE YOU WILL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THAT FAIR CONSIDERATION (AND HOPEFULLY FAVORABLE) BE GIVEN TO EDMUND BURKE'S APPLICATION #17022 BASED UPON THE MERIT OF PROJECT THAT IMPROVES A CURRENT CITY ASSET.

Victoria Hatch

SARAH S HATCH
3148 WESTOVER DR. S.E.

BZA
Case No. 17022
Exhibit No. 109

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17022
EXHIBIT NO. 109