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October 17, 2003

Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

In support of BZA case 17043

Sir/Madam:

I urge you to please consider the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association's appeal regarding the reduction in the number of off-street parking spaces that MedLink must provide for its staff and visitors.

MedLink staff and visitors are terrible neighbors to those of us who live on Capitol Hill. There is a consistent history of disobeying the parking requirements imposed by the Board of Zoning Adjustment. A further reduction in the number of required parking spaces will create a host of new problems for the neighborhood.

Few of the MedLink staff or visitors that I see parking on the streets surrounding the facility are DC residents. They show little respect for the neighborhood or its inhabitants. MedLink staff regularly discard used rubber gloves on the sidewalks and in the tree boxes around the facility. MedLink visitors loiter for hours around their cars leaving food containers wherever they see fit. Capitol Hill does not need an increase in this activity.

New residential developments on 7th Street, 8th Street, C Street and Constitution Avenue when coupled with active membership drives by the churches of 8th Street and 9th Street have created a severe shortage of parking on weekday nights and weekend mornings. Allowing MedLink staff and visitors to take these precious neighborhood spots (when 176 spots already exist on the facility) will put undo stress on the residents of the neighborhood.

Any reduction in the parking requirements for the MedLink facility should be conducted through a public process with opportunity for discussion on the adverse impact that reducing the required parking spaces will have on the surrounding residential area.

I understand that that ANC 6A and 6C as well as the Capitol Hill Restoration Society have already filed letters in support of the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association's appeal. I would urge the BZA to side with the residents of Capitol Hill and require MedLink staff and visitors to park within the MedLink facility.

Regards,

Stuart Richens
229 8th Street NE

BZA
Case No. 17043
Exhibit No. 38

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17043
EXHIBIT NO. 38