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GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street N.W., Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

RE: BZA case 17043 (MedLink Hospital)

Dear Sir or Madame:

As a nearby neighbor of MedLink Hospital, I am writing to urge as strongly as I can that you reverse the recent decision of the Zoning Administrator that improperly reduced the required number of parking spaces at MedLink to just 85.

In 1991, when the hospital had 130 beds and 250 employees, BZA required the facility to have 176 parking spaces. In 1999, when MedLink wanted to expand to 162 beds and 340 employees, BZA reasonably required it to provide 276 spaces. Today, when the facility has 177 beds and over 300 employees, the provision of only 85 parking spaces would be totally inadequate.

There are up to 176 parking spaces in MedLink's underground garage, and there is no reason for the owner not to use all available spaces. When MedLink employees and visitors cannot find parking on site, of course, they park on the surrounding streets, and neighborhood residents find it harder and hard to find space for their own vehicles. The problem is especially bad because MedLink is a 24-hour facility – meaning employees and visitors can park for long periods and even overnight on the surrounding streets, when the residential parking program's two-hour limit is not in effect.

I am urging that BZA revoke MedLink's certificates of occupancy because the Zoning Administrator issued them without input from BZA or the community. Also, BZA should require MedLink's owners to provide the same number of parking spaces as in BZA's existing orders. Failing to do so would put a very unfair burden on the surrounding community, where lack of parking for residents has become a major problem.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Franzén

BZA
Case No. 17043
Exhibit No. 73

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17043
EXHIBIT NO. 73