Heller, Michele

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GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street NW
Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001
BNZ Case 17043

To Whom It May Concern,

As a Capitol Hill resident, I am writing to protest your decision to reduce the number of off-street parking spaces MedLink must provide for its staff and visitors.

I live directly across the street from MedLink and have a very difficult time finding a street parking spot near my house at all times of day, but particularly in the evenings. I often have to spend 20 minutes looking for a spot, and when I find one it is often five or six blocks from my house. As a woman, this could put me in danger as I have to walk a number of blocks late at night to get from my car to my house.

Not only should you review the entire Capitol Hill parking situation to open up more street parking spots for cars, but specifically it is outrageous that you would reduce the number of parking spaces MedLink is required to provide. It puts Washington taxpayers -- who should be your primary constituency -- at risk.

Specifically, I think BZA should revoke the certificates of occupancy because the zoning administrator issued them without input from BZA or the community.

BNZ should require MedLink to provide the same number of parking spaces as in BZA's existing orders.

There is no evidence of any change in the scale of operations at MedLink, so there is no reason for you to reduce the number of parking spaces they must provide for their staff and visitors.

Since MedLink is staffed 24 hours a day, their staff can park on the street in the evenings when a Zone 6 sticker is not required. Evenings are the most difficult time for Capitol Hill residents to find a parking spot, so it is ridiculous that you would encourage MedLink's employees to contribute to the problem.

You should also consider the fact that MedLink has a consistent history of disobeying the parking requirements imposed by BNZ.

Finally, please keep in mind that any reduction in MedLink's parking requirements should be conducted through a public process.

Thank you for considering the views of MedLink's neighbors. I strongly urge you to reconsider your decision to reduce the number of off-street parking spaces MedLink must provide its staff and visitors. I also hope you will do more in general to address the horrible parking problem on Capitol Hill.

Sincerely,

Michele Heller

BZA
Case No. 17043
Exhibit No. 79

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17043
EXHIBIT NO. 79