332 8th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
October 28, 2003

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
2003 NOV 28 PM 4:19

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

RE: BZA Case No. 17043

Dear Board Members:

I understand that the District's Zoning Administrator has agreed to greatly reduce the number of parking spaces that MedLink must provide to its staff and visitors. As a resident of the neighborhood of Capitol Hill that will suffer from this decision, I strongly object, and I ask that you reverse this decision.

As I understand it, there has not been a reduction in MedLink's number of employees and hospital beds since the BZA last ruled on this issue. There has, however, been an increase in the demand for parking in the neighborhood because of the completion of the large residential development project on 7th Street between Massachussets Ave. and C Streets, NE, where there used to be a large parking lot for the hospital. Another condominium recently went up on the 300 block of 8th Street, NE. The neighborhood is getting busier, and more crowded. The Administrator's decision will cause even more congestion and make it even more difficult for residents to find parking.

When I bought my house on Capitol Hill thirteen years ago, one thing that was a strong attraction was that parking was always easier than in other downtown residential neighborhoods such as Dupont Circle, Adams Morgan, or Georgetown. I fear that that may no longer be the case if MedLink employees and visitors, who come to the facility not only during business hours but also on nights and weekends, have few parking spaces available for their use.

Any reduction in the parking requirements should come after a public process so that the impact of the decision on the surrounding area can be considered. Until that process occurs, the Zoning Administrator's decision should be reversed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Schiff

BZA
Case No. 17043
Exhibit No. 80

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17043
EXHIBIT NO. 80