October 30, 2003

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

D.C. BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
2003 NOV -3 PM 4:23

RE: BZA case 17043

To Whom It May Concern:

My family has lived in the 300 block of 8th Street, NE for over 33 years. We are completely against Medlink having a reduction in the number of parking spaces it must provide for its facility. Over the past few years our neighborhood has seen too many single-family homes converted into apartments as well as too many multi-family units constructed. More and more people move in but no one does anything to provide parking for us, the residents who already live there and are constantly fighting to find parking.

There are many days when we hate to have to move our car. Simple task like going grocery shopping or taking our Mother to a doctor's appointment means riding around or waiting when we return home in the car for 15 minutes to 1 hour for a parking space. If you all decrease the number of parking spaces Medlink must provide it will only make a bad situation worse.

It was also brought to our attention that the current Certificates of Occupancy that were issued by the Zoning Administrator was done so without any input from your agency (BZA) or the community.

Therefore, my family supports the appeal from the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association.

1. BZA should revoke the Certificates of Occupancy because the Zoning Administrator issued them without input from BZA or the community.

2. BZA should require MedLink's owners to provide the same number of parking spaces as in BZA's existing orders, which establish how much parking is adequate for the facility. There are up to 176 parking spaces in MedLink's underground garage. There is no reason for the owner not to use all available on-site parking spaces to reduce parking pressure on the neighborhood streets.

3. There is no evidence of any change in the scale of operations at MedLink. The owner appears to have sought the new Certificate of Occupancy for the sole purpose of reducing parking requirements.

BZA
Case No. 17043
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4. MedLink is staffed 24 hours a day, so employees can park on the street during hours not covered by the residential parking program, making it hard for residents to park on evenings and weekends.

5. MedLink has a consistent history of disobeying the parking requirements imposed by BZA.

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

If anyone needs to reach our family, you may do so by sending and email to malindasimon@yahoo.com or by calling 202-607-4662.

Thank you,

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