United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Region
Rock Creek Park
3545 Williamsburg Lane, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-1207

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L7617 (NCR-ROCR)

SEP 2 1 2004

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis, Chairman
D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW, Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: BZA Application No. 17055 – 6200 Oregon Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. - Knollwood Retirement Residence Facility

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board:

The purpose of this letter is to express the National Park Service's (Rock Creek Park) support for the proposed expansion of the Knollwood Retirement facility. Representatives of Rock Creek Park and Knollwood have been engaged in discussions and meetings regarding the proposed addition since early this year. We believe that Knollwood's proposal has been designed so as to avoid any adverse impacts on Rock Creek Park and the surrounding properties.

The location of the proposed addition in the general area of the property, now used for a parking lot and a roadway, is a significant improvement over the previous design. We applaud the efforts of Knollwood to minimize the number of mature trees that will be lost on their property and encourage them to take all available precautions to protect the existing tree canopy.

We also believe that the proposed location of the parking area (in the front of the existing facility) allows Knollwood to use the existing topography of the property to screen the parking area from Rock Creek Park and from Oregon Avenue. We feel there will be no negative visual impacts on Rock Creek Park as a result of the siting of the parking area in that location.

Representatives of Knollwood and Rock Creek Park will continue to work together during the building permit process to assure that all necessary stormwater management and soil erosion control measures will be satisfied to assure the protection of Rock Creek Park. We believe that Knollwood's proposal will have no adverse environmental impact on Rock Creek Park.

BZA
Case No. 17055
Exhibit No. 145

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17055
EXHIBIT NO. 145

For all of the reasons stated above, the National Park Service, Rock Creek Park supports the application of Knollwood before the BZA. We look forward to working with Knollwood's representatives during the construction process. Thank you for your attention to our views.

Sincerely,

Adrienne A. Coleman
Superintendent, Rock Creek Park

cc: Paul Tummonds