February 9, 2004

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW; Suite 210-S
Washington, DC 20001
fax: 727-6072

RE: Letter in Opposition to Application # 17095 at 1701 Kalorama Road, NW

Chairman Griffis and other members of the BZA:

I am writing to urge the BZA to oppose the application for a special exception at 1701 Kalorama Road, NW (application # 17095), by Sun Service Inc. The valet parking at 1701 Kalorama has severely disrupted our neighborhood and lowered my quality of life. Hundreds of cars per weekend night are seen zooming in and out of that building, with little regard for pedestrians, stop signs or other basic traffic laws. The Reed-Cooke Overlay specifically prohibits this activity.

The valet parking at this location was always supposed to be a temporary activity, occurring only during construction of the parking garage at the nearby "Lofts" development. That is the only reason the neighborhood did not object to it initially. Once the Lofts garage was completed, the valet parking was to move back to that location. They have disregarded their promise and have been operating their business without a valid permit.

Our neighborhood is undergoing a building boom. In addition to the current residents, hundreds of new units are coming online, with a corresponding increase in traffic and parking. Ironically, the valet parking at this location is not being used for residents, but rather only for those who have come from outside the area to drink and go clubbing on the weekends. The congestion on Kalorama is already much to high, and the valet parking is only making it worse. The parking lot lures these cars 2 blocks further away from the commercial strip of 18th, and the Lofts parking lot, and into the quieter residential blocks thereby completely upsetting the normal well-mannered and controlled traffic patterns of these narrow and often one-way streets, and the peace and mind of the neighborhood's citizens.

Additionally, signs posted for this hearing were not done so in a timely manner, and I did not receive my notice for this hearing. I only heard of it through friends and neighbors, and we have had little time to organize. Please respect the Reed-Cooke Overlay and the wishes of the local residents. I urge you to reject this application.

Sincerely,
Stephanie J, May
1661 Crescent Pl., NW #503
Washington, D.C. 20009

BZA
Case No. 17095
Exhibit No. 42

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17095
EXHIBIT NO. 42