

April 3, 2006

Geoffrey Griffis
BZA Chairman
441 N. 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Application of Dorchester Associates
BZA Application No. 17309

Dear Mr. Griffis:

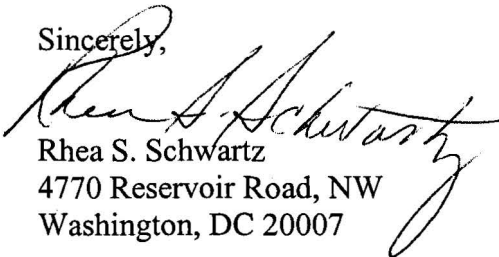
I am writing in advance of the BZA meeting scheduled for April 11, 2006 to oppose the above referenced application.

As a thirty (30) year resident of the Palisades, I am deeply distressed by the advancement of this application in contravention of DC law and the Chain Bridge Road/University Terrace Tree and Slope Overlay. Development which conforms to the laws and regulations of the District is perfectly legitimate. I would not waste my time opposing it. However, the proposal to squeeze 13 "McMansions" into this small green space is offensive to all notions of preserving a valuable community.

The failure to protect one of the remaining treed areas would be a gross error and will violate the overlay. Not only will trees be inappropriately lost, but the construction of these houses will damage healthy trees. Without the trees storm water run-off is sure to be a problem. What about the impact of this construction and crowding on Battery Kemble Park, the neighborhoods jewel and pride? Finally, Chain Bridge Road is currently a challenging drive because it is a narrow, windy, hilly street. The addition of 13 multiple-car houses on this street is a frightening thought.

I urge you to do the right thing – uphold the tree and slope overlays as you are sworn to do and protect our neighborhood.

Sincerely,


Rhea S. Schwartz
4770 Reservoir Road, NW
Washington, DC 20007

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17309
EXHIBIT NO. 118

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