

RECEIVED

D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING

2006 JAN 11 PM 4:48

January 4, 2006

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis
Chairman, BZA
1 Judiciary Square
441 4th St. NW, 2nd Fl.
Washington, DC 20024

Re: BZA Application #17309
Dorchester Associates

Dear Mr. Griffis:

I live downhill from the property that is to be developed by Mr. Morten Bender. The stream that catches water flow from the area runs behind my house and others on Battery Pl. NW. In the 30 years I have lived here, I have become keenly aware of the patterns of water runoff in the stream.

In the last two or three years, I have seen with my own eyes changes in the runoff and the course of the stream. I have no doubt that this has been caused by increased development uphill on University Terrace. The changes are such that my next door neighbor had to erect a 30-40 foot long support wall to try to stop erosion. I myself have lost about a foot or more off the land behind me just in the last year!

Mr. Bender is ignoring the Chain Bridge Rd/University Terrace Overlay that is supposed to prevent such destruction. The houses he plans to build are too large and too many. Large trees will be cut down and the natural contours of the land disrupted. This will most certainly affect the runoff below. Mr. Bender could show consideration of his neighbors and sensitivity to the setting and still make a sizeable profit.

Certainly there have been changes in the houses along Chain Bridge Rd., but Mr. Bender would change the whole character of the neighborhood. Let's

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 17309
EXHIBIT NO. 86

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17309
EXHIBIT NO. 86

call his proposal what it is, a housing development such as has congested Virginia and Maryland. The District has become something of a refuge from this, and restoration of its neighborhoods continues. The BNZ should keep this economic value in mind always.

Chain Bridge Road is an old historic farm to market road, one of the last in the District. Along this narrow, winding way, one can still imagine the rattle of wagons, the sounds of cattle, the march of Union soldiers, and the procession of mourners to the historic graveyard. This should not be jeopardized by increased traffic and for one man's profit. It is up to the BNZ to see that it is not.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elliott Jones". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping tail on the "s".

Elliott Jones
2806 Battery Pl. NW
Washington, DC 20016