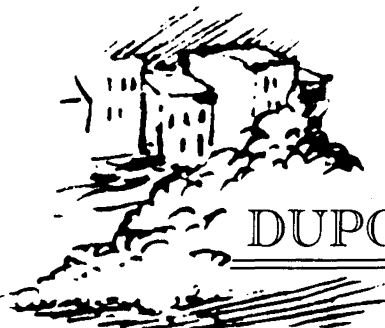
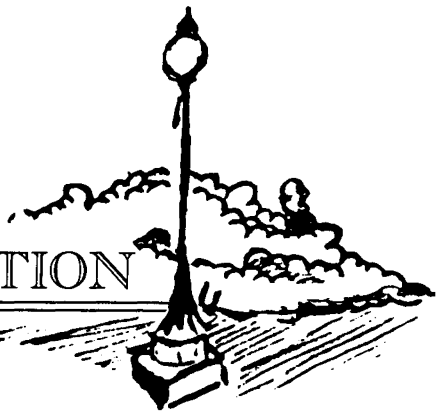




DUPONT PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

BECOME AWARE • BECOME INVOLVED

(202) 583-4205

3245 "O" Street, S.E.
Washington, DC 20020
November 7, 2002

RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2002 NOV - 8 PM 3: 50

Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia
441 - 4th Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, DC 2001

RE: Case No. 01-02 - Text Amendment Regulation of Antennas, Antenna
Towers, and Monopoles

Dear Commission Members and Staff:

The officers and members of the Dupont Park Civic Association extend appreciation for the serious and thoughtful consideration and hard work of commission members and staff in compiling the draft regulation of antennas, antenna towers, and monopoles. We also provide the following comments for your consideration in promulgating final regulations with particular context of our experience with a monopole application in our community (Ward 7, Pennsylvania and Branch Avenues, S.E., in the Penn-Branch Shopping Center):

1. We join civic and citizen organizations as well as Advisory Neighborhood Commissions across the city to support the total exclusion of monopoles in residential (R) and neighborhood commercial (C-1) districts of the city. For clarity and proper enforcement, the words "No New" antennas should be included to cover existing towers in C-1 and R districts.

Barbara D. Morgan, President
Joseph McKinney, Vice-President
Doris T. Cooper, Treasurer
George Smith, Financial Secretary

Ralph Amis, Recording Secretary
Stella C. Hall, Corresponding Secretary
Julian Asberry, Chaplain
Freddie Hill, Sergeant-at-Arms

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

Case 01-02
Exhibit 121

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.01-02
EXHIBIT NO.121

2. Though as a matter of right, antennas, antenna towers and monopoles should be allowed in industrial districts (M-1), applicants should be required to provide information in their applications on the maximum capacity of the tower, antenna, and monopole as well as the maximum RF radiation emissions and type of antennas in order to ensure public health and safety and to provide an aggregate record of facilities in the District of Columbia. Coordination with other District of Columbia offices with appropriate jurisdiction is urged.

3. While an aggregate record of total antennas, towers, and monopoles is essential, the separation of terms in the definitions contained in the new Chapter 26 is most helpful to the public understanding of the use, capacity, and possible effects on health and safety of each transmitter.

4. Though "stealth" tower structures go a long way towards mitigating objections from community residents, each should be carefully reviewed through special exception application to ensure proper design, neighborhood compatibility and specific location approval. To grant wholesale matter of right approval of "stealth" structures would be contrary to the careful and thoughtful manner in which the proposed rules have been drafted. Stiff community opposition is sure to follow.

5. The Commission should establish strict design standards for equipment housing and security in relation to the area in which antennas, towers, and poles are to be constructed. In many areas of the city and in the appropriately zoned districts, the box-like structures as well as the intrusive security fencing, should remain from public view. Vast areas of space could be treated with planting of trees and other greenery to soften the impact of barbed wire, metal fencing and metal structures. Such regulations have been effectively promulgated in Prince Georges and Anne Arundel Counties, Maryland, and are in use along Route 50 and Route 295 (Baltimore Washington Parkway.)

6. Although the Commission does not regulate utility companies, some provision of regulating, albeit cooperatively with other District agencies, the use of antennas attached to utility lines and poles in residential districts as well as in C-1 districts should be included. If this area of regulating is not addressed a loophole for the use of antennas on utility poles would exist in the proposed regulations.

-3-

Again, we extend appreciation for the outstanding work of Commission and staff to consolidate, clarify, and strengthen antenna regulations into one Chapter. It is our sincere hope that no other community will need to employ the resources necessary to fight an application for an antenna, tower, and/or monopole...as Dupont Park did last year. It was a "David and Goliath" fight which fortunately, with the help of the Office of Planning, ended with our community not being disrupted or endangered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barbara D. Morgan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Barbara D. Morgan
President

MAS/dtc