

5219 42nd Street, NW
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Ms Carol Mitten, Chairman
Zoning Commission
District of Columbia Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, NW Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001
Case ZC #02-17

Dear Ms Mitten,

Back in 1968—August 2nd to be exact—I moved into this, my first and only house. Back then the neighborhood, it seemed, rolled-up its sidewalks at sundown. Hardly a police or fire siren was heard, no blaring horns, nothing. I would take walks in the evening and pass homes and see lights on the first floor, the living and dining area. On my way back home, I would pass the same houses and see lights in the upstairs bedrooms, a sign that parents were putting their children to bed. A comforting thought. As I continued my walk home I heard the sounds of silence, only the crickets buzzing. I awoke to a chorus of birds every morning.

When the underground trains came, my wife had to endure hundreds of explosions; constant noise of machinery until the train system was finally through. We put up with the constant din because “the neighborhood” would benefit.

Not so with the current situation besetting my neighborhood. My wife and I are both retired and plan to live here, in this neighborhood for the rest of our lives—would that it would be so pleasant as back in 1968. The current existing development, less than 40 feet, is residential, normal for a neighborhood. The R-5-B structures, light commercial, are a must for local businesses on the Wisconsin Avenue corridor. But the revised Stonebridge proposal is out of the question. The current zoning development as “a matter of right” would allow for a significant increase in height and density on the Washington Clinic site. Stonebridge is proposing *even more*. Can you imagine the traffic that this project would bring when completed—not to mention the terrible tie-ups that construction would rout? Aside from Wisconsin Avenue, which in most places are two lanes coming and going the neighborhood streets are one lane coming and one lane going. There is no mention of widening these streets. Can you imagine the parking problem this project would bring, the blaring horns of impatient workers? The accident rate would soar. My wife and I are both disabled. We would be taking our lives in our hands, literally, every time we went to the grocery or drug store, bank, or just shopping.

I urge you not to approve the Stonebridge project, for “Life” sake.

Sincerely,

Ron
Neva Lewis-Farrah

Ron and Neva Farrah

November 11, 2002

*Zoning Commission
District of Columbia
Case 02-17
121*

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-17
EXHIBIT NO.121