

**Carla and James Flug
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Washington, D.C. 20008
202-244-2120**

June 27, 2002

Mr. Alberto Bastida, AICP; Secretary, D.C. Zoning Commission

**Re: Case No. 02-19 - Emergency Map Amendment for a Tree and Slope Overlay
filed by the Forest Hills Citizens Association: Request to Defer All Action Pending
Further Community Discussion**

We are neither proponents nor opponents of the proposed Forest Hills Overlay.

We feel strongly, however, that neither we nor most other affected homeowners have had a reasonable opportunity to understand and formulate an informed opinion on the current proposal. The proposal has been a moving target: in a period of less than three months, it has been proposed in four different forms, the most recent of which (that of the Planning Office) has been available for only a few days. Despite the hard work and good faith of the volunteers who have worked on this matter, there simply has not been an adequate chance or effort to reach a broad community consensus on a city action which may affect our lives and our property very directly and substantially.

The proposals appear to impose significant retroactive standards and requirements which at very least we should understand thoroughly before we are asked to be bound by them and before the Commission is asked to consider them as reflecting community desires. The most recent community meeting, at which the third form of the plan was to be presented, unfortunately turned into an exchange of debater's points between advocates on both sides, generating more heat than light, and we fear that today's scheduled hearing will be even more divisive. We believe that with more time and effort, we and our neighbors can present the Commission with a proposal which brings the community together rather than sharply dividing it, as the earlier versions have done.

We therefore suggest and request that the Commission defer all action on the proposal, including if possible tonight's hearing, and allow the affected homeowners, with the assistance of the ANC, a period of 120 days, to consider this matter further. We are aware of no urgency which counsels against such a course. While we understand that in the meanwhile the April 19 status quo, which no one now supports, would be maintained unless the Commission orders otherwise, that fact would provide an incentive for prompt and definitive action by the community, and then by the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla & James Flug

**ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia**
Case 02-19
ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Exhibit 125
**CASE NO. 02-19
EXHIBIT NO.125**

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

To :	Attn:S.Sanchez Alberto Bastida	From :	Carla Flug
Sent :	6/27/2002 at 2:46:24 PM	Pages :	2 (including Cover)
Subject : Tonight's Hearing on Case No. 02-19 (Forest Hills Overlay)			

Please circulate the attached letter to the members of the Commission.

As indicated, we think that the nature of our suggestion is such that it should be addressed prior to the start of the hearing. If the hearing does proceed, we would like the opportunity to make our point briefly to the Commission after the ANC majority and minority reports are presented, and before the proponents and opponents begin addressing the merits.

Thanks you for your assistance.

(Since we are having some computer problems we would appreciate a call [244-2120] to confirm your receipt of this fax)

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