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April 19, 2002

PRIORITY HANDLING, PLEASE

The Hon. Carol J. Mitten
Chair, D.C. Zoning Commission
Suite 210 South
441 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

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Re: Case No. 02-19 -- Emergency Map Amendment
Filed by Forest Hills Citizens Association

Dear Chair Mitten:

Please be advised that there are a significant number of residents of Forest Hills who are not in agreement with the provisions in the proposed Overlay Zone that would make substantial changes in the current zoning of already developed lots. The most particular concerns are with the proposed changes in maximum lot occupancy, minimum lot size, and side yard distances. We have many older houses in Forest Hills and these additional restrictions to current zoning requirements would prevent homeowners from investing in many improvements in their homes. Much of this opposition was voiced at the meeting last Tuesday night, April 16, sponsored by the Forest Hills Citizens Association.

As our ANC3F Commissioners Kogan and Maudlin correctly pointed out to you in their April 18 letter, there has been no meaningful public discussion in the neighborhood of the proposed Zoning Overlay. Last Tuesday's meeting of the Forest Hills Citizens Association, of which I am a member, was too little and too late.

While I cannot speak for the entire neighborhood, I suspect that most Forest Hills neighbors would support implementation on an emergency basis of the tree and slope provisions of the Zoning Overlay to prevent the hasty removal of trees to beat out tree removal restrictions. I would urge, however, that you strip out of the Zoning Overlay all provisions that affect existing, developed lots until a more suitable, consensus proposal, more in tune with our neighborhood's and city's needs, can be developed for review by the Zoning Commission.

Sincerely yours,



ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-19
Exhibit 21

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-19
EXHIBIT NO.21