

Peter E. Halle
2801 Chesterfield Pl., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

September 4, 2002

Zoning Commission
District of Columbia
Room 200
414 Judiciary Square
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Case 02-19

Honorable Commissioners:

I am a thirty-year resident of the District of Columbia. I live at 2801 Chesterfield Place, N.W., which is in the area under consideration.

I was drawn to "Forest Hills", as our section of the city is called, precisely because it has forested hills. It abuts Rock Creek Park, and appears to be part of it because the heavily-treed slopes of our rolling neighborhood touch the edge of the park.

I hope that the Zoning Commission will adopt the proposal to protect the essential forested character of this unique neighborhood. The proposed changes to the Zoning Regulations appear to be narrowly drawn to permit Forest Hills to remain tree covered without inhibiting reasonable development of the remaining empty lots.

Let me explain. There are currently four lots under active development on Chesterfield or immediately adjacent to Chesterfield. On two of the four lots, the owners followed a "Scorched Earth" policy and cut down every tree (on one lot) and most of the trees (on another). These two lots are eyesores. Contrast this to the other two lots where the owners are building substantial homes while cutting three or less trees on each lot. All four lots have similar square footage – 10,000 to 15,000 square feet each.

Please take steps to protect Forest Hills

Respectfully submitted,



Peter E. Halle
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ZONING COMMISSION
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Exhibit 239