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September 27, 2002

D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

02-19-19
SEP 27 11 3:38

Re: Case No. 02-19
Forest Hills Tree and Slope Zoning Overlay

Dear Commission Members:

I urge the D.C. Zoning Commission not to adopt the proposed Tree and Slope Zoning Overlay for Forest Hills. A zoning regulation of an extraordinary nature that alters the existing zoning requirements in many substantive ways, such as the proposed Tree and Slope Zoning Overlay, should not be adopted against the wishes of a substantial portion, likely even a majority, of the residents of the affected area.

I further urge that the temporary Zoning Overlay be lifted at the end of this calendar year unless there is satisfactory evidence that there is substantial agreement among residents of Forest Hills for a zoning overlay rule that is severely reduced to deal only with preserving trees in a meaningful, but practical manner. The ANC and the neighborhood should pursue suggestions for a tree replacement rule, or payment to a tree fund in lieu of replacing trees, as a condition for removing trees above a certain size. We are a wealthy enough neighborhood to be able to afford this much. All other existing zoning requirements should remain in place as is, except for the temporary Tree and Slope Overlay Zone that should be eliminated.

Sincerely yours,



ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-19
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District of Columbia
CASE NO. 02-19
EXHIBIT NO. 259