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May 22, 2002

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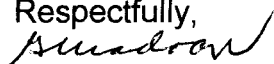
Re: Case No. 02-19 (Test Amendment - Forest Hills Tree
and Slope Overlay District)

Members of the Commission:

In December, my wife and I will have lived within the proposed overlay district for eleven years. Good fortune and the unusual topography have made Forest Hills a wonderful place to live. The ability to listen to the birds singing in the majestic mature trees of this neighborhood is a priceless gift. Soapstone Park may not be Yellowstone but it does provide a real sense of nature.

Guarding the dwindling legacy of such neighborhoods seems mostly a losing proposition. Financial advantage favors denser use of land. The proposed overlay arises because a shocking disregard of neighborhood character is already on display. I enclose a photograph that I made last year of one such devastation of a treed lot located at the NE corner of Linnean and Chesterfield Place, NW. Currently, a few doors north of our home, the proposal is to take down an apparently beautiful house, on the corner of Albermarle and 29th Street NW, to make way for two new houses. One very large tree has already been taken down. More will follow. Unless the Commission approves an overlay district to protect the historic character of this neighborhood, destruction would appear inevitable.

My wife and I strongly support the Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay.

Respectfully,

George W. Shadoan

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-19

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CASE NO. 02-19
EXHIBIT NO. 29



02-19