

Robert V. Maudlin
Commissioner - ANC 3F03

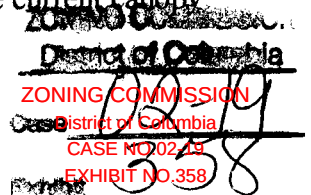
Statement
Before the DC Zoning Commission
Office of Planning Alternate Proposal
Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay District
Case No. ZC 02-19
July 22, 2004

My name is Robert Maudlin. I am the only ANC commissioner who lives in the Forest Hills overlay district and my single member district includes more than half of the households in the overlay district.

In June 2002 I coauthored an ANC minority report recommending that the Zoning Commission reject the Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay. This is Exhibit 82 in this proceeding. The reasons for that recommendation regarding the Forest Hills TSO that was set down in December 2002 still stand today.

However, I am pleased to be here this evening to support the Alternate Proposal presented by the Office of Planning in its Final Report dated July 12, 2004. The staff of the Office of Planning is to be commended for their diligent work in researching various options to address the concerns of the Forest Hills residents regarding the Forest Hills TSO set down in December 2002. The Office of Planning research and crafting the Alternative Proposal was an open process which included consultation with Forest Hills residents and a public meeting with ANC3F. The Alternate Proposal is a sound and manageable plan.

The Office of Planning by using a GIS survey to objectively determine the current canopy



in Forest Hills and proposing a plan based on canopy coverage, brings tree protection into the 21st century. The proposal being considered at this hearing is designed to not only preserve the existing Forest Hills canopy but it also provides for tree planting to increase the existing canopy.

The Office of Planning Alternate Proposal, in comparison to the original proposal provides for flexibility in meeting preservation requirements. It creates an easily enforceable mechanism that incorporates review by the Urban Forestry Administration.

It provides for reducing the impact on the buildable area of lots and maintaining the canopy coverage of Forest Hills.

In short, it meets the needs of the community and will preserve and enhance the “forest” in Forest Hills.

I urge this Commission to approve the Office of Planning Alternative Proposal.

Thank you.

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