



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

KATHY PATTERSON
COUNCILMEMBER, WARD 3

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July 22, 2004

Carol J. Mitten, Chairperson
DC Zoning Commission
Office of Zoning
441 4th Street NW Suite 210-S
Washington DC 20001

RE: Case Number 02-19 (Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay)

Dear Ms. Mitten:

This will confirm my support for the Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay that has been in effect since October 2002. The Forest Hills Overlay is not only consistent with, but mandated by, the express provisions of the Ward 3 Comprehensive Plan.

For example, Section 1403. 4 of that Plan specifically states:

"The District government should do the following:

"(b) * * *

"(2) Map the Tree and Slope Protection overlay (11 DCMR §1511) throughout the ward in addition to Woodland-Normanstone, particularly in areas adjacent to federal park lands."

Again, using identical language, Section 1406.12 includes as public action to be taken:

"(c) Map the Tree and Slope Protection overlay (11 DCMR §1511) throughout the ward in addition to Woodland-Normanstone, particularly in areas adjacent to federal park lands."

Also noteworthy is Section 1406.5:

"(a) Areas in Ward 3 that are environmentally valuable and sensitive to urban development include the following:

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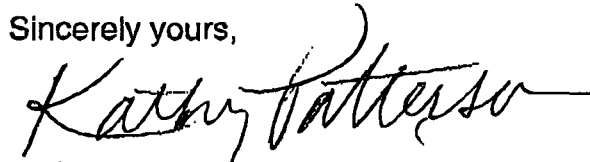
- "(6) Neighborhoods developed over hilly terrain or near stream valleys (such as Barnaby Woods, Forest Hills, Hawthorne, Palisades, Spring Valley, and Woodland-Normanstone): Urban design should respect and perpetuate the natural features, low density, and usually wooded character of these built areas" (emphasis added).

Finally, Section 1409.4(b)(2), after noting that these areas, because of their low density and park-like setting, require land use controls in addition to the requirements of R-1 zoning, concludes:

"This Tree & Slope Protection overlay should be considered and adopted for . . . park-like, hilly areas such as the Potomac palisades and the portions of the Forest Hills and Barnaby Woods neighborhoods adjacent to Rock Creek Park and its tributary valleys" (emphasis added).

I would strongly urge you therefore to fulfill the mandate of the Ward 3 Plan and approve the Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay.

Sincerely yours,



Kathy Patterson



Kathy Patterson
Councilmember, Ward 3

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Re: Forest Hills Tree and Slope
Overlay

cc:

• Comments: XXX