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CATHY WISS
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016

August 23, 2004

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

**RE: Forest Hills Tree and Slope Protection Overlay
ZC Case No. 02-19**

Dear Chairman Mitten and Zoning Commissioners:

After filing the list of native canopy trees for your consideration, I received the following e-mail message from Sue Salmons, Resource Management Specialist for Vegetation at Rock Creek Park, commenting on the list:

Thank you for appreciation of the need to try to prevent non-native species from invading into Rock Creek Park and for your efforts in addressing the issue of plantings around the park. I have only a few comments on your list:

-River Birch and Sycamore prefer moist to wet soils, so need a lot of watering in drier sites.

-Sweet gum and Willow oak are actually native mostly to the coastal plain rather than the piedmont. We try to discourage planting them west of and within Rock Creek Park, except in the eastern Ft. Circle Parks area.

-Similarly, white pine and hemlock are not naturally found in this area. They are found in higher elevations of western Maryland and Virginia. Any that is here has been planted. However, neither species is invasive to an established forest (pine invades only in disturbed, open areas). So we don't object to having them planted near the park.

Preventing the introduction of non-native species is by far the most cost-effective way to control invasive exotic species. Thank you for your efforts in trying to help us do that in Rock Creek Park.

Sincerely,

Cathy Wiss
Cathy Wiss

**ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia**

CASE NO. 02-19
EXHIBIT NO. 384

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District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-19
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