

June 9, 2006

Ms. Sharon S. Schellin
Secretary of the Zoning Commission
D.C. Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Zoning Commission Corrected and Revised Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Zoning Commission Case No. 02-19 (Text Amendment - Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay District -11 DCMR.)

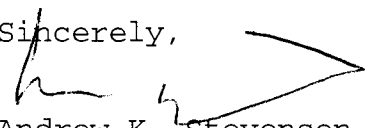
Dear Ms. Schellin,

Our family resides at 2955 Albemarle St. NW. in the Forest Hills neighborhood. We are longtime residents of the District and have resided at this address for the past four years. While in general we continue to oppose the the imposition of these regulations on Forest Hills, we recognize that the members of the Commission have worked long and hard on this issue and that this represents their best efforts on the matter.

That said, we believe that Section 1518 Ground Coverage Restrctions (FH/TSP) should be modified. A lot occupancy limit of 30% will do very little to increase the number of trees in the neighborhood, but will seriously penalize homeowners who have smaller lots, should they wish to add-on to their existing home or build a new one. The same is true of the new setback limits. Neither of these changes to the existing zoning law belong in a regulation whose stated intent is to enhance the tree canopy.

Finally, I would just comment that given the tenor of the neighborhood wrangling over this issue, it is fairly safe to say that changes in the law like this ought to be resolved a political setting by an elected body. These types of issues should be fully debated and voted on by the City Council. The issues raised by changes in the zoning law have citywide implications and should be dealt with in that context by legislative vote not by executive directive.

Sincerely,


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ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 02-19
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EXHIBIT NO. 400
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