

Robert V. Maudlin
Commissioner - 3F03
Advisory Neighborhood Commission
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June 30, 2006

Ms. Sharon S. Schellin
Secretary
Zoning Commission
Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 200-S
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Z.C. Case No. 02-19, Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay
District

Dear Ms. Schellin:

Reference is made to the Notice dated May 8, 2006 published in the DC Register on June 2, 2006 regarding a proposed rule to add a new Tree and Slope Protection Overlay in the Forest Hills area of the District of Columbia.

The single member district I represent, 3F03, includes more than half of the area of the overlay and over half of the properties included in the overlay. I respectfully request and urge that the members of the Zoning Commission reject the proposed rule and close the case. The four year record of this proposed rulemaking fully supports and calls for this action.

The process in this rulemaking has been fatally flawed from April 5, 2002 when the application was filed and the proposed rule is still seriously flawed.

Testimony and exhibits in this proceeding clearly show that for the past four years there has been a deep, sharp division in the community regarding the overlay and this division is no less today than it was shortly after the application was filed and the residents became aware of it. This division needs to be healed.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

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ZONING COMMISSION
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There has been an indication during this proceeding that the Zoning Commission would not adopt a rule that did not have substantial support of the affected residents. This has not happened and therefor the proposed rulemaking needs to be rejected by the Zoning Commission.

It is also noted that since this application was filed, the DC Council has enacted the Urban Forest Preservation Act of 2002, which became effective June 12, 2003, and regulations implementing the Act have been in effect since January 21, 2005, to protect public and private trees throughout the city.

Very sincerely yours,


Robert V. Maudlin