

2813 Albemarle Street NW
Washington D.C. 20008

June 14, 2002

MR. Alberto P. Bastida, AICP
Secretary of the Zoning Commission
Office of Zoning
Suite 210
441 4th Street NW
Washington D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Batista

RE: Case No. 02-19

We are writing to support in the strongest possible terms the Forest Hills Tree and Slope Overlay, which we understand the Zoning Commission is to consider at its meeting on June 27, 2002.

We have lived in Forest Hills since 1990. Coming from overseas, we were attracted to the neighborhood because of the wooded environment – being able to live in the woods in a city! We believe that the Overlay provides the best opportunity to preserve the natural topography and mature trees in Forest Hills.

Since we purchased our house we have watched with alarm as huge mature trees have been felled to make room for construction of two houses in a lot where previously there had been one. Trees and forests are global public goods. Unless for essential purposes, individuals have no right to destroy perfectly healthy and mature trees.

The residential infill projects and wholesale cutting of trees are destroying the character of the neighborhood. We believe that the overlay will encourage general compatibility of new houses with the existing houses in the neighborhood.

We hope you will consider our views on this very important matter.

Yours Sincerely

Michael Essex & Jeeva Perumalpillai
Michael Essex & Jeeva Perumalpillai – Essex

CC: ANC 3F
Forest Hills Citizens Association
Ad Hoc Tree and slope Committee

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-19
Exhibit 85

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-19
EXHIBIT NO.85

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