Zoning Commission Hearing November 27, 2006

We are here on behalf of the Earth Conservation Corps and four area members of the Garden Club of America from DC, MD, and VA. The Garden Club of America has 17,000 members nation wide and was founded in 1923. This Earth Conservation Corps project was begun in 2003 and will continue for many years to come.

In 2003 four local Garden Club of America clubs, in partnership with the Earth Conservation Corps, banded together to adopt an environmental venture that would help clean up the Anacostia River. The founder of the Earth Conservation Corps, Bob Nixon, suggested that we create a wetland grass nursery on the Earth Conservation Corps grounds to reduce storm water run off and reduce erosion along the banks. After extensive research we, along with the Earth Conservation Corps, planted four different kinds of water plants in April 2004. This project became the centerpiece for the Garden Club of America national meeting that Spring bringing 1,000 of the 17,000 members to the Anacostia to view the project.

In August 2005, the garden clubs hired the Ecological Restoration and Management, Inc. to install coir logs, telephone size poles made of hemp, into the river 15 feet below the high water mark. The logs produced silt as the river flowed in and out. In June 2006 members of the Earth Conservation Corps, ECC board members, and the garden club women planted 1,000 bull rushes in the river.

The four garden clubs have spent three years on this project, raising and giving money. Our purpose has been twofold

To provide a learning tool for the Earth Conservation Corps members to give them pride in their neighborhood and knowledge on how to save their river

To create a demonstration project to show how citizens can clean up their own environment

This is why we are here today. Part of the money from Florida Rock is being directed toward a park which is in the Earth Conservation Corps back yard. They already have a park, which the Earth Conservation Corps members have been working on with money raised by them. We want to see the Earth Conservation Corps receive 50% of the community proffer resources to continue their work on expanding their park and seeing their project become a reality from a dream.

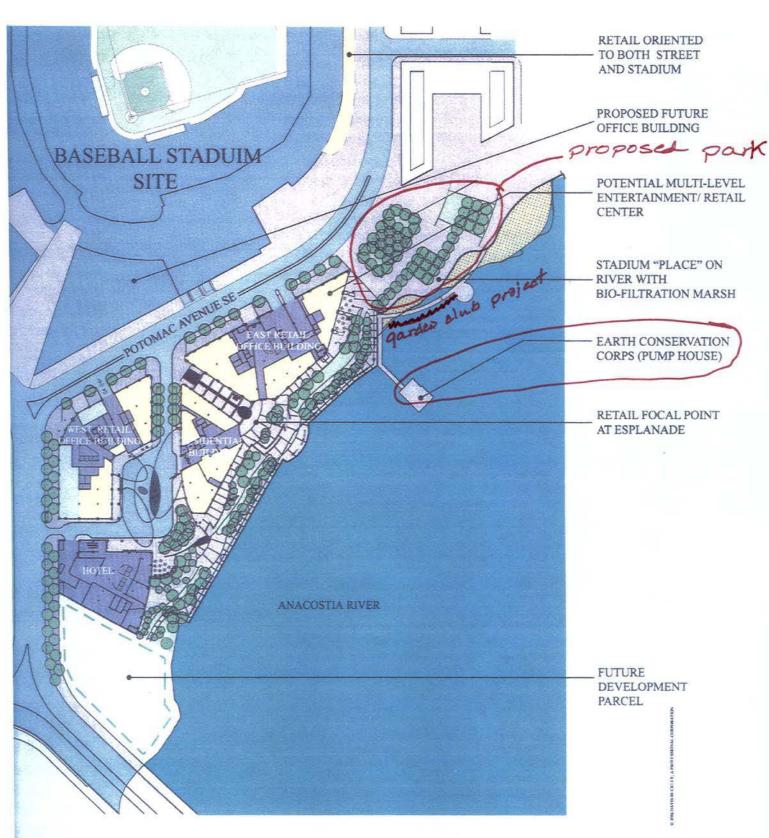
Respectfully submitted, Lelia Hendren, Perennial Garden Club

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EXHIBIT NO.54



ILLUSTRATIVE SITE PLAN

DMAC AVENUE, SE

FRP MODIFICATION AUGUST 25, 2006



FLORIDA ROCK PROPERTIES, INC. SPARKS, MARYLAND

ANACOSTIA STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Plugging the plants into the matting in April & June; pulling up the matting and placing them into the river in late August.





