

A-V M A



American Veterinary Medical Association

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Secretary of the Zoning Commission
Office of Zoning, Suite 210
4th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

Case No. 05-21A

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) joins the District of Columbia Veterinary Medical Association in urging the Commission not to adopt the above-referenced amendments to the zoning regulations, as currently proposed. These amendments would require special exception uses for veterinary hospitals within C-2, C-3, C-4, C-M and M Zone Districts.

This unusually burdensome zoning regulation would prevent the development of new veterinary medical facilities that play a vital role in protecting animal and human health in the District of Columbia. As written, even renovations and expansion of current facilities would be affected. As demand for veterinary services is growing, this proposal will adversely impact access to those services, especially in developing areas of the city that are underserved currently.

We understand that the purpose of the proposed zoning regulation is to address inappropriate boarding of dogs. If that's the case, we ask to Commission to craft a regulation that will accomplish that purpose narrowly through public nuisance, noise, or waste removal ordinances. This will avoid placing an undue burden on veterinary hospitals and clinics and the resulting harm to animals, their owners and public health.

The AVMA was established in 1863 and is the largest veterinary medical association in the world. As a not-for-profit association established to advance the science and art of veterinary medicine, AVMA is the recognized national voice for the veterinary profession. The association's more than 73,000 members represent approximately 85% of U.S. veterinarians and are involved in all areas of veterinary medical practice including private, corporate, academic, industrial, governmental, military, and public health services.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

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Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bonnie Buntain, President of the DC Veterinary Medical Association at phone 202-544-5034 or via email: buntain104@verizon.net regarding this matter and Dr. Sal Cirone, D. C. Delegate to the American Veterinary Medical Association via email: SalCirone@comcast.net.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Adrian Hochstadt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some capitalization.

Adrian Hochstadt, JD,
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