

**Avisory Neighborhood Commission 4B
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February 8, 2006

Ms. Carol J. Mitten, Chair
Zoning Commission
441 4th Street NW Suite # 210
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Case # 05-30, 6000 New Hampshire Ave. NE.
3 PAGES Total

Dear Ms. Mitten,

This letter is in response to the letter received by your office February 8, 2006 from Rodney Foxworth, Lamond Riggs Citizens Association in reference to case 05-30, 6000 New Hampshire Ave. NE.

As the commission has stated to Rodney Foxworth, the Zoning Commission sent letters to the residents who live within the 250ft that they were required to and NONE of the current LRCA members are within that 250ft zone. The letter received is not on behalf of all members as stated. No one community group speaks for all, each have members some share view and some don't.

The majority of members of LRCA live in WARD 5 or on the line of Ward 4/5. The residents who do live within the 250ft zone did not seek outside assistance from residents who do not live as close to the development as they do.

Lamond Riggs Citizens Assoc. cannot state that there is no consensus being there have already been 2 votes taken at different community group meetings. The first was a meeting chaired by Council member Adrian Fenty, myself Chair Cherita Whiting, Commissioner Judi Jones, Citizens Aware President Yvonne Jefferson and the vote passed to support the project. The next vote was needed because of changes requested by the affected SMD commissioner and I chaired this meeting and invited all of the community groups and residents who do not attend the normal community meetings and the vote passed again and it was a unanimous all in favor of the development. Also in attendance at the meetings where Anita Hairston from Office of Planning and Samara Cook from DDOT, this is how the Setdown Report was able to be sent to you back in October of 2005 with the Office of planning recommendations to approve the request.

The fact remains that there were votes taken at both meetings which passed at both meetings and lead the community along with the developers to believe that we are moving forward. If residents have changed their minds now this is what we have to deal with. But the ANC has to be allowed to respond and that is what we are asking. We need to also be clear that there had been untruths spread thru the community meant to confuse some of our residents to be clearer our senior residents.

The community has to be made aware of the tax implications "we" face if the zoning stays R1, our seniors WOULD NOT be able to afford the new tax rates. But the commission does hear and know that there is still confusion because you can attend a meeting and hear residents state that they "know this will be a mixed unit development" in one comment, but in the next state, "I don't want a zoning change". This is what needs to be dealt with the pros and con's of both sides.

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EXHIBIT NO. 20

The division is also coming from the residents who are members of their own community group and wondering why LRCA feels the need to say "they" are speaking for the community. Example at a meeting this year that LRCA had the question was asked for a show of hands of residents who actually live in the 4B community, 3 residents raised their hands. Again residents closest to the development should be heard. A survey by Lamond Action Group which all of their members live in the SMD affected by this development supports this development. The commissioner of the SMD chooses to ignore those residents, so they have chosen to seek the ears of the rest of the ANC commission, fearful that the commission will give their ears to LRCA because their ANC commissioner is in agreement with LRCA speaking for everyone, even though the community as a whole has not asked for this to happen.

The commissioner in 4B07 sent in a letter stating "no" to the project but the largest community group in her single member district supports the project. The commissioner's letter was not that of direction by the residents but that of which the commissioner herself sent and started the breakdown in the community.

LRCA put LRCA in the middle of this because they wanted to, not because the residents came to them. The residents of 4B07 & 4B08 have been involved from the very beginning. The ANC has not asked LRCA to develop any such agreement as stated in Mr. Foxworth's letter to this commission. Mr. Foxworth even mentions being present at the meeting where the residents were in favor of the development. It was not until residents were being told that their "own" zoning would be affected by this development that residents who were satisfied became concerned. But as you know this information that was told to them was false and sometimes it takes time to cleanup a mess as such.

To clarify another statement in the letter received from LRCA not all of the homes in the community are on hills and all basements DO NOT FLOOD. It is these very kinds of statements that should not be made as though speaking for all residents in 4B, Mr. Foxworth just moved here himself and has only just become President of LRCA 2 months ago. Commander Burton has attended several community meetings I asked him to attend the first with regards to this development and asked the question about increased police patrols/officers once the development is complete. He stated the same response at each meeting, "there is no guarantee that we will receive extra officers at this time". This statement has been echoed by officers who I have invited to attend meetings this year as well. The only sign of increasing officers would come if the volume of calls for the PSA increased and then the next steps would be determined.

LRCA is asking for residents who have been involved for a now 2 year process to wait now until they "catchup" because they now want to be involved. This is unfair to those who have attended meeting from the very beginning and who DO live within the 250ft zone. For 2 years they could have been involved with the community meetings that have been going on, the meetings are public meetings. I am appalled that LRCA would even try to misrepresent itself and state to this commission that "current" members live within the 250ft zone. If that were the case they would have received letters as did all the other residents who do.

All of the ANC commissioners have not been able to see the development because the prior chair would NOT allow them to be on the agenda anytime of last year. I am including them on the agenda which the commission will decide if it will be February or March. This way all of the commissioners will have been able to see the presentation and ask questions of the developer. The residents who live nearest the project should be allowed to speak, not have someone who lives a distance away say what they would like to see. In all fairness I could say the MCI center affects me every time I go downtown but I think the residents who live closer voices would be heard rather than mine. It is only fair the same applies for the residents who have been in meetings with this developer for 2 years now, and not those who have maybe

attended 2-3 maybe meetings who still do not have a clear picture of \ is being asked to be developed.

Lastly please remember residents who should be allowed to testify should be those who live within the 250ft zone and who ARE the most affected by this development. They are going to be those who see, hear, step over, drive by (more often), and look out their windows and see the pro's & con's more than anyone not residents who live in the next ward which members of the LRCA do live in Ward 5 would that be fair?

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Cherita Whiting Chair 4B ANC



AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH

FAX TRANSMITTAL

DATE: 2-10-06

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Number of pages (including cover): 4

If you do not receive the entire transmittal, please contact:

REMARKS:

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