

LCAG
LAMOND COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP
Post Office Box 60404
Washington, DC 20039
LCAGLCAG@aol.com

OFFICE OF ZONING – TESTIMONY

PUBLIC HEARING- 06-06 - CHARTER SCHOOLS -- TEXT AMENDMENT

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2006 @ 6:30 PM

Good evening, my name is James Gaston, III I am President of the Lamond Community Action Group. Our neighborhood is located in the Lamond-Riggs section of Ward 4 Our community based organization has been in existence since 1965 and consists of approximately 175 single-family homes and we are committed to improving quality of life for its residents

The LCAG is in general support of Text Amendment Case No. 06-06 and any additional legislation that curtails the development of any future charter schools without neighborhood and/or ANC approval of such facilities Our neighborhood has been inundated with charter schools Unfortunately, a portion of our neighborhood has a light-industrial designation and many of the businesses in our neighborhood are relocating to Maryland and are selling their properties to charter schools and charter school companies Within a 3-block radius of the LCAG, we currently have 5 public charter schools,

Kamit Institute,	100 Peabody Street, NW
Barbara Jordan	100 Peabody Street, NW
Ideal Academy	100 Peabody Street, NW
Young America Works	6015 Chillum Place NE
Roots Activity Learning Ctr	6222 North Capitol Street, NW,

ZONING COMMISSION
CASE No. 06-06
EXHIBIT No. 28

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Recently, the LCAG has learned that 2 additional public charter schools are planned within the same 3-block radius in our neighborhood. The LCAG insist that some coordination occur between the neighborhoods/ANC's, the DC Public Charter School Board and the DC Public Schools Charter Board, regarding the placement of new and the relocation of charter schools. Our area has been completely saturated with public charter schools and some of the complaints from LCAG neighbors are,

- 1 Inadequate teacher/staff parking, which greatly impedes residential parking for some of our retired citizens,
- 2 Charter School Traffic, speeding, running stop signs and blatant disregard for posted traffic signs,
- 3 Charter School noise and trash by disruptive children,
- 4 Some of our mature residents have become apprehensive about leaving and entering their homes at the beginning and ending of the charter school day due to the same disorderly children,
- 5 Inadequate facilities for recess and other recreational activities, (children playing in an alley),
- 6 Non-responsive school management to residential concerns.

Any assistance the Zoning Commission can do to curtail the issues it would be greatly appreciated

Thank you, respectfully submitted,
James Gaston, III, President &
Keith White, Vice-President
Lamond Community Action Group