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7218 Blair Road NW
Washington DC 20012

November 24, 2014

Ref Case Number 14-13

Mr. Anthony Hood, Chairman
Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street NW
Washington DC 20001

Dear Mr Hood

We understand that the Zoning Commission has just gone through the difficult process of rewriting the zoning regulations after careful study and consultation. We do not understand why the proposal (Case Number 14-13) is suddenly being considered after all the work that has already been done. This proposal, by allowing penthouses to be used as residences in effect allows the height of buildings to be raised by about 20 feet as a matter of right without consulting with residents in the neighborhood about such issues as being overshadowed and changing the character of a neighborhood. Prior consultation on a case by case basis to ascertain a full range of pros and cons on which to base such a decision is at the very heart of local government in a democracy. In our judgement the proposal constitutes a crude and unwarranted assumption of power that would abrogate the rights of citizens to representative local government, which in Washington DC includes public hearings and involvement of ANCs in a decision process.

We strongly recommend that the proposal (Case Number 14-13) be rejected.

Yours Sincerely,


Leonard and Vivien Rubin

cc Sara Green, ANC 4B01

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
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EXHIBIT NO. 47
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