

Brookville Super Market
3427 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008
January 20, 1988

Lindsley Williams, Chairman
District of Columbia Zoning Commission
The District Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 11
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Z.C. Case No. 86-26
Connecticut Avenue
(Cleveland Park)

Dear Mr. Williams:

My brothers, Yashar and Jacob, and I are in the process of purchasing the site at which we recently opened the Brookville Super Market on Connecticut Avenue. We are dedicated to providing a community grocery store that will meet the needs of the residents in this area. For a while, we were afraid that we would not have a chance to do that. As I am sure you are aware, it took a great deal of support and citizen activism in this neighborhood to overcome the many hurdles that stood in our way. It is on behalf of the many people who helped us that I am writing to you today.

We are looking forward to providing service to our customers for many years to come. Already, however, we hear rumors that many of the buildings across the street are for sale -- for \$10 million. If prices like this happen, our taxes must go up. Then we will have to raise the prices to our customers. Many of them are older people and retired. They cannot afford the higher prices we would have to charge if the taxes went up. And we would not be able to afford to stay if they went up too much.

We are in favor of development that is in keeping with the neighborhood. We would like to see all of the available retail space in the neighborhood occupied. The more businesses there are, the more customers who will come in to all of the businesses. However, we are not in favor of speculation. Speculative prices will drive up taxes and drive out many of the smaller businesses that the residents depend on. We are also not in favor of any development that will increase automobile traffic without providing adequate parking. If there is not enough parking, people will park in the alleys and block our suppliers. Delays in unloading will cost us both time and money. Those costs would have to be passed along to the customers, along with the frustration of delays in stocking.

The petition before you allows for reasonable development. We therefore urge you to approve the requested rezoning and protect us, as current tenants and prospective owners, from the higher taxes and disruption to neighborhood services that will result if the real estate speculation occurring in this area is not halted now.

Sincerely,

Mike Shirazi

Mike Shirazi

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EXHIBIT NO. 255
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