

STATEMENT OF
CLEVELAND PARK BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

ZONING COMMISSION

(Presented for President Bobby Abbo, who is away from Washington at this time).

CASE No. _____
EXHIBIT No. 262

As President of the Cleveland Park Business and Professional Association, I am speaking for the 48 member businesses.

We strongly encourage some of our neighbors to reconsider their position on downzoning and we urge the Zoning Commission to leave "AS IS" our long-standing C-2-A zoning classification. We, the business people of the area, are desperately looking for the revitalization of the area.

As recently as this past Thursday, a neighbor, the Cleveland Park Fish Market, had to close their doors. They are no longer in business.

Unfortunately, this is not an unusual scenario. Just walk into any store in your neighborhood and listen to the owners' problems. They are all telling the same story. Rents are going ever higher. Expenses are going ever higher. Taxes are going ever higher. Yet, business activity is declining.

We hope we have provided quality services to our neighbors over the past years. It is now our turn to ask our neighbors' support. They must realize that we cannot continue to supply these services to Cleveland Park residents unless we also serve a much wider clientele. Visitors of the National Zoo and the National Cathedral and the Adas Israel Congregation Synagogue and those coming to the Uptown Theater to see such films as "Cry Freedom", "Ghandi", Star Wars, etc.

The newest member of our business community, the Brookville Market, has made a tremendous commitment to our community. The Shirazi brothers, as new owners, counted on the existing C-2-A zoning classification when they bought the building at 3427 Connecticut Avenue and made their commitment to provide a full Service market in Cleveland Park in place of the departing Safeway store. They join us in opposing any downzoning or restriction on our C-2-A Zoning.

Now is the time to recapture the business lost during Metro construction and to revitalize the deteriorating property at the Cleveland Park Metro Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobby Abbo
Bobby Abbo, President, Cleveland Park

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 86-26
EXHIBIT NO. 262