January 21, 1988

Mr. Lindsley Williams, Chairman D.C. Zoning Commission
The District Building, Room 11
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Lindsley,

I am for the rezoning of Cleveland Park. My father is a developer, and yet I have no qualms about saying the developers should be forced to go elsewhere for large scale development. I know that developers will develop everything if we let them. I also know that they can always find another site if the one they have planned on turns out to be less lucrative then expected. I am aware that complete control lies in the hands of the city. The developers are at your mercy, so to speak.

I feel it is your responsibility to represent the majority of citizens, rather than the few who may be more powerful. I moved to this neighborhood because it is just that - a neighborhood. We are also a community, and there are not many of those left. Washington is a beautiful city because it is balanced. Development is healthy, but not if it destroys that balance.

I used to live in Westwood, California, so I have experienced first hand what happens to a neighborhood when large scale development is permitted. Parking is impossible in Westwood. The local businesses have been forced out, and the streets are filled with retail chains that turnover at a mind boggling rate. Westwood is no longer a neighborhood, it is an apendage of Wilshire Ave. It is not safe at night. It is not quaint, and it is not a community. It would be tragic to see this happen to Cleveland Park.

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CASE No. 86-26

EXHIBIT No. 273

Sincerely, Elmos Muma

Elinor Newman

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.86-26
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