THE COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1307 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 Telephone (202) 785-2068

July 7, 1988

Ms. Maybelle Bennett, Chair 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20004

> RE: Case No. 86-26

> > Cleveland Park Overlay Zone

PUD Guidelines

Dear Ms. Bennett:

The Columbia Historical Society, on the recommendation of its Historic Preservation Committee, has followed the Cleveland Park zoning case and wishes to voice its support of the petitioner Cleveland Park Historical Society. Compatible zoning designation and regulations for the protection of the Cleveland Park Historic District constitute important measures with application to other historic districts and neighborhoods throughout the District of Columbia.

We all know that most future development along Connecticut Avenue will be via PUDs (like the Park & Shop PUD request). We also know that if we really are to save the existing historic buildings, PUD guidelines greater than the Overlay Zone can only hurt us. Higher and larger buildings, by definition, in a historic district characterized by low size and low scale structures, will be fundamentally incompatible. is why we support the petition of the Cleveland Park Historical Society to limit PUD height and FAR guidelines to 40 feet and 2.0 FAR, respectively -- the limits of the new Overlay District. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane W. North Executive Director

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ZONING COMMISSION

EXHIBIT Nistrict of Coomb

EXHIBIT NO.556

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Ms. Maybelle Bennett June 7, 1988 Page 2

height and FAR which the Cleveland Park Overlay District will accomplish (40 feet, 2.0 FAR). As noted by the Commission and the Office of Planning, the basic reason for the new Overlay Zone is to enhance the local and national Cleveland Park Historic District by protecting the size and scale of the existing historic structures along Connecticut Avenue. Having gone to the trouble of providing this legal protection through a change in the underlying zoning, it makes no sense to allow a developer to now use the PUD process to regain the height and density you have just taken away. In other words, having reduced the allowable height and density by creating a new Overlay Zone, the developer should not be allowed to escape these restrictions by using the PUD process.

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Replacement paragraph for Bennett letter: Authorized Preservation

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SAMPLE LETTER

June 7, 1988

Ms. Maybelle Bennett, Chair DC Zoning Commission 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004

> Re: Case No. 86-26 Cleveland Park Overlay Zone PUD Guidelines

Dear Ms. Bennett:

Replace with new of

We have followed the Cleveland Park zoning matter with deep interest because it has important ramifications for other neighborhoods in Washington. We were pleased to testify before the Zoning Commission last January on behalf of petitioner Cleveland Park Historical Society.

1. Reduction in FAR

Since the Commission has given its preliminary approval to a height reduction (from 50 feet to 40 feet) in the Cleveland Park Overlay Zone, we believe a corresponding 20% reduction in FAR (from 2.5 to 2.0) is also warranted. We are pleased that Fred Greene, Director of the City's Office of Planning, also agrees with this reduction.

2. Limitation on PUDs

The Commission has heard mounds of testimony and received hundreds of letters in favor of the reductions in

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June 30, 1988

Dear Jane: Mark

Attached is the sample letter in support of the overlay zoning for the Cleveland Park Historic District with a replacement first paragraph.

After sending out the material on this case to the CHS Preservation Committee, I have heard only from Terry Brown who favored the position in the sample letter. I assume Kathy Wood supports the position. I have not heard from David Sellin or from Adam Foster, but assume that they are in agreement.

Therefore, I recommend that Mark Griffin sign a letter in support of the Cleveland Park Historical Society's petition.

With many thanks.

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