

Anthony V. Furano
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Washington DC 20015

November 1, 2002

Carol J. Mitten, Chair
Zoning Commission
DC Office of Zoning
Suite 210-S
441 Fourth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

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Re: Case No. ZC 02-17 Stonebridge Associates

Dear Chair Mitten:

I wish to state my strong opposition to any re-development of the Washington Clinic Site that requires a change in zoning from its current R-5-B status.

I have lived at the above address since 1969 and in the more than 30 years in this neighborhood I have not opposed, and indeed have welcomed, most of the re-development that has occurred in and around the Friendships Heights area.

In addition, to commercial development (which added needed amenities and convenience to our neighborhood) considerable amount of new housing was also added. However, none of the latter, including the recent completed town house development, the Courts of Chevy Chase, which is closer to the Friendship Heights Metro Stop than the Washington Clinic site were inconsistent with the purposes and goals of the Comprehensive Plan for Ward 3, namely to **“Conserve and maintain the District’s sound, established neighborhoods through the strict application and enforcement of housing, building, and zoning codes and the maintenance of the general level of existing residential uses, densities, and heights...”**.

The current Stonebridge Application is unique in violating this sound and so far successful land use plan which has kept Ward 3 one of the most desirable residential communities in the entire Washington metropolitan area and an irreplaceable economic resource for our city. Indeed, its very desirability makes it vulnerable to incessant and intense pressure for overdevelopment of which the Stonebridge application is a prime example.

And, there can be no doubt that if this up zoning is approved, the economic pressure for additional such encroachments into this neighborhood and elsewhere in Ward 3 will ensue with the eventual degradation of its current character.

So it seems to me that the decision before the Zoning Commission is an easy call. Continue the zoning policies that so far have served Ward 3, and our city, so well. Vote no on any zoning change for the Washington Clinic site.

Thank you for your attention,

Sincerely yours,

Anthony Furano

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-17
Exhibit 96

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-17
EXHIBIT NO.96