

3938 Morrison Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20015  
October 24, 2002

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Carol Mitten, Chairman  
Zoning Commission  
District of Columbia Office of Zoning  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 210-S  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Case #ZC02-17

Dear Ms. Mitten:

We want to register our opposition to the proposal submitted by Stonebridge Associates (Case # ZC02-17) for rezoning the property on the corner of Western and Wisconsin Avenues, NW, and urge the Zoning Commission to reschedule its November 14<sup>th</sup> hearing of this case to later date.

We oppose upzoning of this site, as proposed by Stonebridge. The current R-5B zoning already allows for ample growth in redeveloping this land, permitting construction much larger than the current medical office building. As residents of this neighborhood since 1984, we have seen many changes to this commercial intersection that have improved the quality of life in this city. But upzoning of this corner site, given the large scale redevelopment of Friendship Center and other Maryland property just across Wisconsin Avenue, can only add to the congestion of an intersection that, despite Metro, is difficult even now. Upzoning here, moreover, would encroach on the unique, family character of our adjacent, older neighborhood, a quality that makes this city area so attractive and worth the high investment in housing. There is room to preserve and to grow with the current zoning.

Some 300-plus people have signed petitions opposing rezoning of this site, and many have spoken out at the ANC 3E meetings. Yet Stonebridge's revised plan, released October 18<sup>th</sup>, still requires upzoning, the key issue at hand for most residents here. And, since Stonebridge released its final plan less than a month from the scheduled zoning hearing, there is too little time for the community to prepare a cogent presentation, stating their case against rezoning, for the Commission to review prior to the hearing. While Stonebridge is in the business of preparing such presentations, community members need

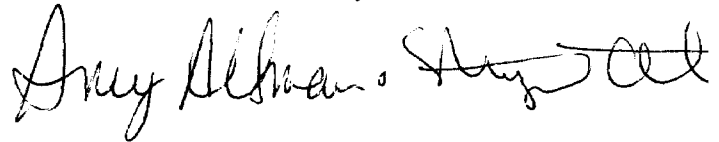
ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia  
Case 02-17  
Exhibit 83

ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO.02-17  
EXHIBIT NO.83

more time to organize their resources. Deferring the zoning hearing on this case will enable the Commission to better consider community viewpoints in their decision.

This site is an important one and deserves due time for city planning. We will all live with whatever is built there for years to come.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Amy Altman and Stephen Altman. The signature for Amy Altman is on the left, and the signature for Stephen Altman is on the right.

Amy Altman and Stephen Altman