

Chairperson Mitten & Members
DC Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Friday, June 23, 2006

re: ZC # 06-22 - Parking facilities at Stadium

Sent: Via fax / e-mail

2006 JUN 23 PM 1:3

DC OFFICE OF ZONING

RECEIVED

Dear Chairperson Mitten & Members,

We are writing to urge that the Zoning Commission minimize any above ground parking proposals for the new Baseball Stadium site, and that the surrounding area be used to maximize retail, residential, commercial, and entertainment uses.

We understand that Mayor Williams favors underground parking. That approach is the right one. The benefit of an urban location for a stadium is that use of public transit can be maximized, and we believe that to be a valued goal for both economic benefits to the city and environmental impacts for the region.

We would note that surrounding development will likely include additional parking - be it commercial, retail, or residential development. Such ancillary development would then allow for spaces to be shared. In the vicinity of the Verizon Center, both existing and new surrounding development has allowed for more than enough parking for those interested in driving to events at the center and elsewhere in downtown during evening and weekend events. While the baseball stadium will be larger than the Verizon Center, we believe objective studies might well indicate adequate public transit capacity and nearby parking venues for those that would be attending games.


The value to the city of the baseball stadium - given the overwhelming public expense associated with its construction, - will be realized by maximizing spin-off economic development. Such a goal will not be achieved by dedicating space for above ground parking garages.


We note the emphasis placed on completion for Opening Day of the stadium and parking facilities by Major League Baseball. We do not support sacrificing worthy long term goals for the very short term and short sighted goal of completing parking facilities by the Stadium's proposed Opening Day in 2008. We would much prefer the project be done right. 2008 will come and go, and the on-going benefits will need to be nurtured and maximized for years to come.

To this end, please minimize any proposed above grade parking structures to be dedicated to parking for baseball stadium users on adjacent parcels. These close-in parcels should be used for spin-off development offering meaningful jobs and economic opportunities to DC residents and businesses.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 06-22 FAX
ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
EXHIBIT NO. 20
CASE NO. 06-22
EXHIBIT NO. 30

Respectfully,

Charley Docter
ANC 6C09 Commissioner
(This represents Mr. Docter's
position, not that of the ANC).


Terrance Lynch
Executive Director
Downtown Cluster of
Congregations

cc: DC City Council