

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E
TENLEYTOWN • AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK • FRIENDSHIP
HEIGHTS

P.O. Box 9953 • Friendship Station
Washington, DC 20016

202-244-0800

October 14, 2003

Mr. Andrew Altman, Director
District of Columbia Office of Planning
801 N. Capital Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

Re: Upper Wisconsin Avenue Corridor Study

Dear Mr. Altman,

We are sending this letter to request formally an extension of time to respond to the Office of Planning's draft Upper Wisconsin Avenue Commercial Corridor Study, until January 27, 2004--assuming that the study will be published on Friday, October 17, and presented at a public meeting on October 27. In addition, we ask that the Office of Planning ("OP"), as it has done to date, continue to stay consideration of any map amendment or PUD application in the primary study area until the draft study becomes final, which would be after the close of the public comment period.

Many residents in our community participated in OP's public meetings and charrettes that were intended to be an integral part of the development of the Corridor Study. We did so because the issues regarding development in this area are of keen interest and great importance to us. Indeed, your predecessor, Robert Collins, kicked off each meeting by telling the community that the Office of Planning was conducting the study for no reason other than the neighborhood had asked for it, that our input was critical because the study--in essence--was ours. Now we ask for an opportunity to contribute to the final document to help create the best report we can.

In order to formulate a comprehensive response to the draft report, ANC 3E intends to convene a series of community meetings from which comments can be collected and then presented to OP in a concise and meaningful way. Our plan not only benefits the community, but also helps your organization reduce redundant remarks. We think that it makes sense to hold three meetings over the course of two weeks—all with the same agenda: collecting the community's comments. Thus, without extending unreasonably the public comment period, we can reasonably ensure that anyone who wants to attend a meeting and make his or her voice heard will be able to do so.

It does not really make sense for us to convene our meetings before OP disseminates and presents its draft study to the public. If your meeting takes place on Monday, October 27, then we will commence our meetings as soon thereafter as possible. Converting the comments from the community into one memo will no doubt be challenging and time consuming. Indeed, the Office of Planning, which is far more accustomed to this exercise than we, has been working since mid-May to finalize its draft. As you can see, it is our intention to give your study the kind of close attention that OP has already given it. In light of the holiday season, from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, we believe that it is not unreasonable to ask to have until the end of January to submit our final comments. We want to do our best to make sure that this important endeavor on the part of the Office of Planning represents the views

of all interested parties. We therefore respectfully request that OP grant us until January 27, 2004 to submit final comments to the draft Upper Wisconsin Avenue Commercial Corridor Study.

The Office of Planning has very responsibly put on hold all map amendment and PUD applications until its Corridor Study becomes final. We expect that OP will continue to refrain from issuing any recommendations regarding set-downs of any PUD or map amendment applications in the primary study area until the final report on the Upper Wisconsin Avenue Commercial Corridor Study is released.

As we will need to move ahead quickly to schedule these meetings, we ask that you respond to our request as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for your consideration and attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Amy McVey, Chairperson
ANC 3E

cc: Mayor Anthony Williams
Councilmember Kathy Patterson
Councilmember Adrian Fenty
Councilmember Phil Mendelson
Councilmember David Catania
Councilmember Kevin Chavous
Carol J. Mitten, Chairwoman, Zoning Commission
Cindy Petkac, Neighborhood Planning Coordinator Wards 3 & 6
Cathy Wiss, Chair, ANC 3F
Anne Renshaw, Chair, ANC 3/4G