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More Community Opposition to Additional Driveways for Marriott Hotel

The Woodley Park Community Association applauds the 6-0 vote last evening by Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3C to oppose the application by the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel for two more driveways across the sidewalk on Woodley Road between 27th and 28th Streets, NW. The vote followed a presentation by representatives of the property owner explaining its plans for the site. ANC 3C represents Cathedral Heights, Cleveland Park, Massachusetts Ave. Heights, McLean Gardens and Woodley Park.

The developer's request will be heard by the Public Space Committee of the District Department of Transportation at its meeting on June 22, 10 am, at 801 North Capitol Street, N.E. The Committee is required to give the ANC's determination "great weight" in making its decision.

Also yesterday, Woodley Park residents delivered to the Committee additional letters opposing the developer's driveway plans. The letters detailed the neighbors' concerns that the proposed driveways would endanger pedestrians and interfere with pedestrian and vehicular traffic along Woodley Road. Many of the signatures on these letter were collected from pedestrians on Woodley Road on Saturday at the location of one of the proposed driveways. At this point, the Committee has letters from more than 100 individuals opposing the developer's plans, in addition to the opposition from ANC 3C and the Woodley Park Community Association.

The developer wants to change the configuration of the hotel and build a condominium tower on the hotel grounds. While contending that there will be no traffic increase, the developer is nonetheless asking to double, from two to four, the number of driveways for this property along Woodley Road.

"They already have enough driveways on Woodley Road," said John Goodman, president of WPCA, "they don't need any more. The developer says it wants to use these driveways to separate hotel traffic from condominium traffic, but it should do that on its own property without using public space and additional driveways."