

From: Zayas, Maria V. [mailto:VZayas@dadeschools.net]

Sent: Friday, January 16, 2009 2:30 PM

To: Kerdyk, William; Slesnick, Donald; Cabrera, Ralph; Anderson, Maria; Withers, Wayne

Cc: Hernandez, Elizabeth

Subject: Menoyo Filing a Harris Act Claim

Distinguished Commissioners: In preparation for the next meeting on January 27th, I would like to submit the following objection to the above-captioned claim.

Last night I met with my neighbor, Piergiorgio Antolini (650 Almeria), and discussed the letter received from Ms. Hernandez, as well as the map emailed by Mr. Riel (I also provided a copy to my other neighbor, Juan Carlos Diaz at 640 Almeria). Mr. Antonili has asked me to write on his behalf to express our opposition to Mr. Menoyo's claim to increase the height of the properties which scheduled to be constructed in the future, most especially, on the ones pertaining to lots 6-10 on the Almeria Row Complex. Our reason is simple, we like the Coral Gables we bought into when we purchased our properties (in my case 1984), and consider the construction glut in the City Beautiful has just about eliminated the "country-like-yet-in-the-center-of-activity" atmosphere residents enjoyed. The current apartment complex at 635 Almeria which will be razed to make room for the rest of the Almeria Row Complex, sits back in the lot so that it provides expansion and "breathing" for the surrounding properties. This will be eliminated because I understand you have already agreed to allow construction much, much closer to the sidewalk, like the already constructed four Almeria Row townhouses. On top of that, now Mr. Menoyo wants to raise the height and we definitely oppose this move. We realize that the newly-constructed Condos behind 635 Almeria, facing Valencia Avenue are higher than the existing Almeria Row townhouses, but, you must agree that Valencia Avenue is much wider than Almeria Avenue, therefore, there is more "breathing space" between the new condos and the taller Biltmore Way Condos across the street. This is not our case, therefore we oppose it. And, we oppose it on all the other properties encompassed by Ms. Hernandez' letter as well because they are in our immediate neighborhood. I have also shared this information with Mr. Juan Carlos Diaz, of 640 Almeria, and you may hear from him directly. Should you need to contact Mr. Antolini, he can be reached at 305 446-5730, but kindly speak Spanish.

I extend a special thank you to Mr. Riel, for his diligence in Mr. Riel, for explaining Mr. Menoyo's proposal so that I could convey it to my neighbors. Mr. Riel indicated we should send our objections in writing, since we cannot attend the upcoming hearing on this issue. Please keep us posted on the outcome.

Thank you for your consideration. Have a great day and a great holiday weekend.

**Vicky Zayas, Executive Secretary II
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