

The University of the District of Columbia

Van Ness Campus Plan 2011 – 2020

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing reasons, the University developed its proposed campus plan. This plan locates the Student Center-the use most likely to create pedestrian activity and feature ground-level uses that will enliven Connecticut Avenue –at this prominent gateway location. It also locates the housing on a sizeable parcel that is well-sited away from the most sensitive nearby use-the residential community, and places it in a location that would be able to accommodate future growth. And it leaves the remaining site at Windom Place, which is a strategic location offering potential as an important access point into the campus, open for potential future expansion.

4.5 Off-Campus Housing

As a part of the University's efforts to attract and retain talented undergraduate students, the University leases a small number of units in nearby apartment buildings to provide housing near campus for its evolving undergraduate programs. This program started in fall 2010, and the University expects to continue to utilize available off-campus resources for additional student housing over the life of the Plan.

While the occupancy of these units by students is permitted under the Regulations, UDC proactively manages the behavior of students living in these residential facilities in order to ensure that these students will live harmoniously with nearby residents.

- First, the University has placed resident advisors in the apartment building who live in the building and provide a direct liaison between students and neighbors, as well as support the University's educational mission and, when necessary, enforce its code of conduct.
- Second, the University has also worked closely with building management to establish a strong communication pattern for monitoring and responding to UDC student-related complaints. The building management refers complaints to UDC's Office of Residential Life, which documents and follows up on each complaint. The handful of complaints received over the course of the fall 2010 semester typically consisted of noise issues that are common in any apartment complex with wood floors, and the University has worked with its students to ameliorate the situation and ensure a more harmonious living environment for all residents.
- Third, the University has established a Code of Student Conduct and, when necessary, is able to pursue disciplinary action for students found to have violated its provisions.

UDC takes its responsibility to the neighborhood very seriously, and makes sure that student occupants of the apartments are good neighbors and follow all applicable rules.