

John Barnett
9/25/06.

I'm John Barnett. I live at Potomac Plaza in Foggy Bottom - a block from the Maginot Line.

When I first lived in Foggy Bottom from 1966 until 1977, all seemed well in the area as far as I can remember. I don't recall any serious town/gown issues.

In 1999, I moved back here to my old address and into a war of words between the resident associations on one side and the university on the other.

For six or seven years, now, the war of words has continued and some progress has been made primarily, I believe, in the matter of increased numbers of units of on-campus student housing. Goals have not been entirely met on schedule but neither have they been ignored. And the war of words continues.

Now comes the university with a grand plan aimed at building up and not out which makes a lot of sense to me.

School (campus) boundaries will be maintained; attractive landscaping accomplished and even greater access to University facilities will be (and are now being) offered to local residents.

Construction of student housing will continue until set goals are met.

All this without the need to turn Square #54 into a dormitory. That, in my opinion, would represent a horrible waste of an extraordinarily valuable revenue-producing property.

It's time for the war of words to cease.

It's time for the citizen associations; the regulatory bodies; and university representatives to sit down and with reasonable speed (using the good old give and take method) agree to allow the University to proceed with its' work.

Otherwise, the war of words continues with no end in sight.

Forget the past and some of the folks associated with it; agree on a plan; ENJOY THE FUTURE!

Thanks.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 06-11

EXHIBIT NO. 108

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