

Dottie Steranko-Testimony

Good Evening to ALL! Thank you for giving me the chance to speak about George Washington University and the proposed Campus plan.

My name is Dottie Steranko. I am a Senior Resident at St. Mary's Court. I reside at 725 24th Street, NW. To the left, my apartment faces a large apartment building (GW's). The GW Health Center is on the right, and several offices and a business building can also be seen from my window. Have I had many disturbances? I do not believe so. Thus, I am here tonight to express my support for the GW Campus Plan.

Some people stated that GW does not care about their neighbors. This has never been my experience for the past six years. In fact, I have experienced many neighborly and kind deeds given to us on behalf of the University.

The GW students have always have been mannerly, gracious and respectful to all at St. Mary's. I have witnessed countless deeds. Such good deeds include: access to the GW Health Center, assistance to me regarding a health issue, grocery shopping, doctors appointments, a variety of dances and affairs to keep us young, wonderful invites to GW games and concerts, special teams who help us clean our apartment, and will walk with us when we feel alone. There is also a lot of support toward us when dealing with special services, including a great Foggy Bottom area bus for all neighbors to use.

I will never forget our fire (this year). The first to house us, feed us and give us a feeling of security was GWU.

Ladies and gentlemen, I can go on and on. I am only one person, but I do believe there are many people who love GW students and the goals of the university to accomplish unity with all residents of Foggy Bottom. I have listened to Michael Akin at our Senior Luncheon.

This is a historic Preservation Plan that will benefit all. How can we not be proud to know we are all a part of a designated historic area? Furthermore, the proposed Campus Plan, residential zoned properties and mixed use development of Square 54 with effective dates should be considered. Is this not an effort to negotiate and work with the community?

This University is over 120 years old. It has to grow up and expand. Why can't this work? Let us show other cities what we can accomplish and work together. We have a beautiful city, wonderful residents and our Campus (GW). Can't we be a model example? Let us shine in Foggy Bottom!!

I love this campus area. The students, neighbors, shop owners, and most of all, the "young spirits" that are a part of our future. May George Washington University strive to become the best University and area to live and reside.

Thanks you for your valuable time.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO.
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EXHIBIT NO.
CASE NO. 08-11
EXHIBIT NO. 219