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To whom it may concern,

One of the attractions for selecting Washington, D. C. as a place to retire from Michigan some twelve years ago was the opportunity to live in the proximity of a major University. Not only did I immediately enjoy the benefits and stimulation of campus life, but also I was tremendously impressed by the efforts of the University to reach out to the community.

Taking an "open-minded interest" in local events and politics when I moved her, I attended small group sessions in which the University explained the initial five-year plan and provided opportunities for citizen input. I was impressed by the University's efforts to expand its outreach and increase its services to the community. I was appalled by the degree to which the community turned a deaf ear to even listening to the University's proposals.

Five years later when the University was again involved with another five-year plan I could see improvement in the University's response to community concerns. As this plan evolved I was delighted with the formation of a "Friends" group and the appointment of a staff member and office by the University to apprise the Foggy Bottom community of activities, plans and progress and to involve citizens in ongoing dialogue..

Indeed the operation of complex business and educational enterprises call for long range planning. While the five-year planning process has (despite the protestations of local community activists) enabled both the University and Foggy Bottom/West End to prosper, it seems most appropriate that each "side" have the benefit of long range planning.

I recently changed my residence from Foggy Bottom to Cleveland Park because of family considerations. However the continued relationship of the University to Foggy Bottom is still extremely important to me since my church is located here and I attend a great many cultural events in the area.

Sincerely yours,



Roland J. Lehker
2940 Newark St. NW
Washington, D. C. 20008

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 06-12

EXHIBIT NO. 51

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