

Carol Mitten, DC Zoning Commission  
441 4th Street NW  
Washington DC 20001

Good evening Chairperson Mitten, DC Zoning Commission, and fellow citizens. My name is Brian Schepis and I am an undergraduate freshman at the George Washington University. As a freshman, I am very excited about this plan because I will have the opportunity to see it in action for the longest period of time. This is all, of course, if my class work load allows me to live until my senior year.

However, this evening, I would like to express my excitement and enthusiasm about the Campus Plan's direct effect on the student housing. Within the next few years several off campus residential halls will be closed to undergraduate students in attempts to concentrate the student body into the Foggy Bottom campus and to address neighborhood concerns. This will establish a closer and safer community as well as build a bond between the students and their campus. Also, the Campus Plan proposes adding 1,000 new student beds, including a new residence hall to be built behind the School Without Walls. For the freshman, that project is very exciting because it is expected to be completed for Fall 2009, which just so happens to be my class' senior year.

Currently, I live in the Thurston Hall with three other rambunctious freshmen in a confined room. Not that I don't love Thurston or anything, but it certainly isn't new and I've gotten about three hours of sleep since the school year started. This new residence hall will be the first of its kind at the George Washington University. It will be four single bedrooms connected by a common room with a kitchen. For a freshman, especially one from Thurston, that sounds like heaven.

But this isn't just about getting some serious sleep. The Campus Plan makes some seriously good plans concerning the concentration of the undergrad student body into the center of campus. Not only will this be a better environment for living and learning, but it will also make our campus feel more like a college campus. For a university that is certainly a benefit.

Concluding, I hope the importance of this plan is understood. I have spoken to many students, most of which are freshmen and we are all very excited about this plan. Not only will this be contributing to making of a world class university but also the improvement of the Foggy Bottom community in general.

**Brian Schepis, Class of 2010**  
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**ZONING COMMISSION**  
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