

October 30, 2006

Dear Members of the Zoning Committee,

It is with regret that I am unable to attend tonight's meeting but I would like to have my thoughts and support for the development project transcribed in this letter.

My name is Christine Lam, and I am a 1997 graduate of School Without Walls SHS and a 2001 graduate from George Washington University. I am one of the many DC natives who have benefited as a 21st Century Scholar, now renamed as the S. J. Trachtenberg Scholar, and it is only through GWU's dedication in "keeping the best in the District to stay in the District" that I have been able to receive a top-notch education debt-free. The relationship between SWW and GWU does not only begin from there. For as long as I have known, GWU has been our friend, our neighbor and our mentor. I had the unique opportunity to take classes at GWU throughout my high school years. Many of my classmates took advantage of this program and we entered college with more than a semester of college credits. The SWW and GWU partnership has been 'in talks' for years and I am more than ecstatic that it is moving closer to reality.

The reality is that SWW is in dire need for modernization and more space for the high school students. Although I have fond memories of our weekly school meetings in the main hall where it's always standing room only, it would be nice to have a real place to hold functions, plays and performances like a real school. This physical partnership between GWU and SWW will only strengthen the strong relationship that already exists and the students from both schools will benefit from the end result.

With this said, I am in full support of the development project between SWW and GWU.

Christine Lam

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 46-17
EXHIBIT NO. 37