

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Executive Office of the Mayor

Office of Community Affairs



November 17, 2006

D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING

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2006 NOV 20 AM 8:21

Carol Mitten, Chairman
 District of Columbia Zoning Commission
 441 4th Street NW, Suite 210 South
 Washington, DC 20001

Re: Square 54 – Zoning Commission Case No. 06-27

Dear Chairman Mitten,

I am writing to commend the George Washington University for the planning process that it has engaged in along with the DC Office of Planning regarding the Square 54 Project currently before your commission. GWU along with DCOP did an outstanding job of reaching out to and engaging the community in the Foggy Bottom/West End neighborhoods seeking their input, comments and feedback on the Square 54 project.

As the Community Affairs Coordinator for Ward Two in the Executive Office of the Mayor for the past three and a half years I can attest that GWU along with DCOP have held numerous open community meetings that provided information to all interested stakeholders on this project. This project has also been presented to the community at monthly meetings of the FRIENDS group which was founded by the university with the help of Foggy Bottom residents, whose purpose is to foster better communication and cooperation between the University and it's neighbors.

I have spoken with many residents in the Foggy Bottom community who are supportive of the project and who have indicated that they will testify in favor of the project because the community stands to benefit from the development of Square 54. This mixed use project can provide the community with neighborhood serving retail and a much desired grocery store.

For the District Square 54 will provide an opportunity for new businesses to open up and job opportunities for residents and it will enhance DC's tax base by bringing the 2.6 acre site on the property tax rolls.

GWU has done an excellent job in reaching out to and working with the community as they go about developing Square 54. This project will result in new business, jobs and taxes that will benefit not only the Foggy Bottom Community, but the entire District.

Sincerely,

Desi Deschaine

Community Affairs Coordinator, Executive Office of the Mayor

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 06-27
 EXHIBIT NO. 28
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District of Columbia
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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NOTES/COMMENTS:

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