

2222 I St., NW
Washington, DC 20052
July 2, 2007

Carol Mitten
Chair, Zoning Commission
441 4th Street NW, Suite 200 South
Washington DC 20001

Re: Case 07-12, The George Washington University Mount Vernon Campus - Pelham Replacement Project

Dear Ms. Mitten;

My name is Brittany Wirth and I am a George Washington University student. I am writing a letter to show my support for the Pelham Replacement Project. First, let me provide an idea of my background here at GW. I am double-majoring in Political Science and International Affairs. I am in the International Affairs Society, College Democrats and Mount Vernon Programming Council (MVPC). In MVPC I have served as Coffeehouse Co-Chair and Community Outreach. I have also worked on the Mount Vernon Campus in the Key Depot, as a tour guide, and as an office assistant for Mount Vernon Campus Life. I lived on Mount Vernon my freshman year and am still deeply involved with its community, as noted in my involvement above.

To me, Mount Vernon has always provided the perfect compliment to GW's Foggy Bottom Campus. Foggy Bottom provides an exciting city life and Mount Vernon provides a peaceful retreat from that same city life. In the end, a GW student has access to the best of both types of college campuses. To me, Mount Vernon is simply the place where I feel I belong in the world. It has access to the city but still maintains a more relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

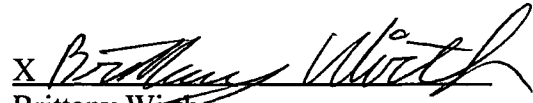
As Mount Vernon has been increasingly integrated into the GW community there has been an increasing need to expand the services Mount Vernon provides; including housing and event space. Although Mount Vernon is a wonderful campus, it has limited resources to provide within its small campus structure. That is why if a new Pelham were built with more housing and more student support space, it would only enhance the experience of Mount Vernon residents.

In regards to the effect upon the Foxhall community I believe no negative effect will be seen. The style of the new Pelham will blend with the pre-existing styles of the area and will not take up any more space than what already allotted. Also, from working with Mount Vernon Programming Council I know there are several events hosted each year that our neighbors are welcomed to. For example, every Halloween we invite kids to go trick-or-treating on our campus. We also invite our neighbors to Cinema Français, Summer Films on The Vern, Octoberfest, and so many more. Films on The Vern is a summer program that shows top-notch films such as Spiderman 3, Pirates of the

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Caribbean 2, and many more. Although this program still aims to attract students it also places a large focus on the Foxhall community by placing ads in community newspapers and bulletins. I believe GW's Mount Vernon Campus has not only provided a great escape from the city for GW kids, it has in return given back to the Foxhall Community in which it resides.

From GW's need to expand offered services on Mount Vernon to the support Mount Vernon has shown its surrounding community, I am in full support of the Pelham Replacement Project.

X 
Brittany Wirth
The George Washington University
Class of 2009