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April 18, 2011

Councilmember Mary M. Cheh
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.,
Suite 108
Washington, D.C. 20004

Councilmember Jack Evans
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.,
Suite 106
Washington, D.C. 20004

The Honorable Anthony Hood
Chair, District of Columbia Zoning
Commission
441-4th Street, N.W., Room 220
Washington, D.C. 20001

The Honorable Jonathan B. Jarvis
Director, National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

John J. DeGioia, Ph.D.
President, Georgetown University
204 Healy Hall
37th and O Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20057-1789

#10-32

Re: Georgetown's "Loop Road"

Dear Councilmembers and Interested Parties:

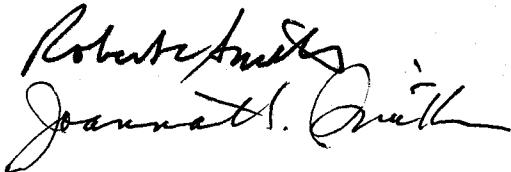
We oppose Georgetown University's proposal to build a so-called "loop road." The university's purpose is to operate a passenger bus service using a great number of large, diesel-powered buses. The western portion of the proposed "loop" would run along the very edge of Glover Archbold Park. Needless to say, such heavy bus traffic, day and night, would create massive noise and light pollution in the Park and in the Foxhall Village neighborhood. The potential environmental impact on the Park itself is also a grave concern.

Park visitors and the university's neighbors are already under assault. First, the university has erected, at its intramural athletic field, large light standards, each holding a dozen high-powered lamps. These lights burn every evening and long into the night, whether or not there is any "athletic" activity. The light is grossly obtrusive, in the Park and in the Foxhall Village neighborhood.

Second, the university must have installed very large mechanical systems in one or more of its buildings. The distinctive, loud hum of these systems carries into and beyond the western boundary of the Park. We have no sound measurements at this time, but it is highly likely that the university is violating D.C. noise regulations.

All in all, Georgetown University has been an inconsiderate neighbor. It should not be permitted to further pollute the Park and the environment with its "loop road" traffic nightmare.

Respectfully,



Robert C. Smith
Joanna H. Smith

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 10-32

EXHIBIT NO. 78