

Magis Row – and Housing on 36th Street

History

The row of university-owned townhouses along the west side of 36th Street, between O and P Streets NW, has been a part of Georgetown's undergraduate student housing stock since the implementation of the 1990 Campus Plan. At that time, the Board of Zoning Adjustment directed the University to add more beds devoted to undergraduates; that directive included this set of university-owned properties. The University has staffed and managed this block in a manner consistent with all other university-owned student housing since that time.

Magis Row Initiative

In response to the University's interest in expanding living-learning program opportunities for upperclass students, and concerns raised by some neighbors about student impacts along this block of 36th Street, the University implemented its innovative Magis Row initiative in the Fall of 2009.

The term Magis comes from Ignatian spirituality, and signifies the Jesuit striving for more – for greater service to the community, for the greater glory of God. The idea of Magis Row is to create a community that embodies these goals. Each house of four students (or two houses with eight students) has an academic or interest-based theme that organizes the students' activities and volunteer work. Each Magis Row community must secure and work with a faculty member or administrator who will guide their activities and their thinking about the theme, and be a regular presence in the community. Community themes have ranged from Catholic social justice to addressing homelessness in DC to sustainability. The students and their advisers have been enthusiastic and creative in pursuing these themes. Living in Magis Row is perceived as a privilege by students, and interested groups of students apply through a competitive process that considers factors such as academic seriousness, connections with faculty members, and a clear purpose and goals for the program.

During its first two years of operation, Magis Row has been a very popular and successful living-learning community, and has also been a positive presence in the community. Magis Row has attracted some of our most motivated and engaged students. During these three academic years, reports of noise, behavior problems, and neighbor complaints have declined over previous years.

The SNAP staff make regular patrols of the Magis Row area on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. The logs of these patrols indicate that the area is generally quiet (sample logs attached).

SNAP Log**36th St Magis Row Area (including O St/35th St) Patrol****SNAP Representative: Cory**

Date	Time	Street	Activity
9/9/2010	10:34 PM	36th Street P --> O St	1 person and quiet
9/9/2010	10:34 PM	36th Street O --> N St	0 people and quiet.
9/9/2010	10:34 PM	36th Street N --> Prospect St	4 walking and 7 in front of Tombs. Relatively quiet.
9/9/2010	11:51 PM	36th Street P --> O St	5 students with a dog
9/9/2010	11:51 PM	36th Street O --> N St	0 people and quiet
9/9/2010	11:51 PM	36th Street N --> Prospect St	8 in front of Tombs. Some noise
9/10/2010	1:16 AM	36th Street P --> O St	0 people and quiet
9/10/2010	1:16 AM	36th Street O --> N St	Groups of 4, 2, 1 and 2 walking. Quiet.
9/10/2010	1:16 AM	36th Street N --> Prospect St	2 in front of walsh, 9 in front of tombs with some noise.

SNAP Log**36th St Magis Row Area (including O St/35th St) Patrol****SNAP Representative:**

Date	Time	Activity
3/26/2011	10:29pm	Magis Row - No activity
		O to N Sts.- Moving foot traffic 11 people walking
		N to Prospect Sts.- Moving foot traffic 10 people walking & 3 people outside the Tombs
	11:42pm	Magis Row -Moving foot traffic 3 people walking
		O to N Sts.- Moving foot traffic 7 people walking
		N to Prospect Sts.- Moving foot traffic 9 people walking
	12:46am	Magis Row - Moving foot traffic 3 people walking
		O to N Sts.- Moving foot traffic 11 people walking
		N to Prospect Sts.- Moving foot traffic 12 people walking & 6 people outside the Tombs
	1:46am	Magis Row -Moving foot traffic 1 person walking
		O to N Sts.- Moving foot traffic 14 people walking
		N to Prospect Sts.- Moving foot traffic 10 people walking & 3 people outside Walsh selling brownies in support of cancer
	2:37am	Magis Row - Moving foot traffic 1 older person getting into car
		O to N Sts.- Moving foot traffic 3 people walking

		N to Prospect Sts.- Moving foot traffic 14 people walking & 3 people outside the Tombs