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DC Zoning Commission
441 4th Street NW
Washington DC, 20001

Dear Commissioners

RE: Opposition to Georgetown University Campus Plan 2010-2020, Case No. 10-32

My name is Patricia Davies, I live in Burleith at 1817 37th Street, and have owned my house there for almost 20 years.

37th Street is in the center of Burleith and is a main thoroughfare for students traveling to and from parties in group houses, events on campus, or the bars and restaurants in Glover Park. Some of the houses (including mine) back onto the S and T Street alleys, so are subject to noise from several different locations, including large groups of students walking in the streets or alleys, and shouting at the tops of their voices.

I love living in Burleith and enjoy being part of a diverse and lively community. I have several wonderful student neighbors, but it's unfortunate that some residents in our community are disrespectful and inconsiderate, and that this reflects adversely on all students and other young people, many of whom are also being disturbed by noise and other unacceptable behavior.

Over the years I have experienced many kinds of behavior issues which are completely inappropriate in our community. These include:

- **Noise:** I resent the fact that I often have to wear earplugs in my own home in order to get any sleep, and I'm embarrassed by the fact that I have to advise my house guests to do the same. As the warm weather approaches, and the outdoor parties start up, I find myself hoping for cold wet weather to continue so as to minimize the number of parties and the accompanying noise factor. I recently had five young professionals living in the house next to mine and was distressed to be woken in the early hours of the morning on several occasions by doors banging and other loud noises, including shouted obscenities.
- **Public urination:** on two occasions I have witnessed male students urinating in their front yard – both times in broad daylight on a Sunday afternoon!
- **Rooftop trespassers:** on two occasions I have had students from nearby group houses walking or running across my roof in the early hours of the morning – this is very alarming and distressing, especially since I have skylights. Another neighbor reported the same problem and was told by the police that they were unable to take any action.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO.

10-32

EXHIBIT NO.

119

- **Rats:** we have recently had an infestation of rats due to the post-party trash left in the back yard of a nearby group house.
- **Trash:** overflowing trash cans, beer cans, beer bottles, plastic cups and other trash are often to be seen in abundance on Burleith's streets, especially on Saturday and Sunday mornings.
- **Unkept yards and properties:** many students and landlords do not adequately maintain their properties and gardens, and these properties really spoil the overall image of Burleith.

I was very relieved recently when the rental house next door to mine was sold to a family. However my joy was short-lived when I learned that the new owner has again let it as a group house. If my worst fears are founded and noise is again an issue, I shall have no alternative but to move, albeit very reluctantly, from my much loved home of 20 years. I have recently been diagnosed with Parkinsons Disease and stress, anxiety and lack of sleep exacerbate the symptoms.

The current Georgetown University Campus Plan will increase the number of group homes in our community and an already difficult situation will deteriorate still further. The City needs to ensure the University grows responsibly and that Burleith and other communities surrounding the University are not adversely impacted.

I urge you to require the University to:

- Provide more student housing on its traditional campus.
- Link graduate and undergraduate enrollment levels to University housing availability.
- Readopt its former goal of housing 100% of undergraduates on campus.
- Strengthen sanctions to reduce disorderly student behavior off campus, and demonstrate that sanctions are applied.
- Reduce student traffic and parking demand in our neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests.

Yours sincerely,



Patricia Davies