

**A Burleith Community Perspective from
One Visible Individual Complainant**

My name is Glen Harrison. My wife and I have been residents/owners of 3726 T. Street in Burleith for 4 years and I serve as the chair of the Burleith Safety Committee. Let me begin by stating that I would like to have been able to support the 2010 Georgetown University (GU) Campus Plan, but as things stand now, I do not support the latest GU Campus Plan. Mainly this is due to its obvious lack of a comprehensive and coherent Community Strategy which should address current community problems such as high-rent rental properties driven by student demand, emerging emigration of elderly residents and families which in turn reduces the number of children who might attend local neighborhood schools, overwhelming demand on public services, increased traffic and vehicle parking in alleys, derelict properties and anti-social student behaviors.

My specialty as a single-family resident has been in attempting to address the symptoms such as anti-social student behaviors such as noise nuisance,

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 10-32
EXHIBIT NO. 241

vandalism, public drunkenness and urination or most recently waking to find two burned campus plan opposition signs on my front steps.

Every week, on most Thursday and Saturday nights, typically between 10 pm-2 am my sleep is disturbed by unacceptable noise nuisance, usually in the form of a person or persons yelling at the top of their lungs, chanting, singing, conversing at above normal volumes or amplified music. I have developed a response depending on the situation and my experience of what does and does not work well. If the nuisance is generated by a small group of 2-10 individuals I get dressed, grab a phone, flashlight and megaphone. I make a mental note of the house address, get the attention of the nuisance generators by use of my voice or flashlight and as a last resort the megaphone. I then ask to speak with the owner/tenant and ask them to please stop making noise and move their party indoors. 95% of the time I am challenged or verbally abused and can readily discern that the nuisance generator has no intention of reducing their impact. At this point I call 911 to report the nuisance. In the past I have called SNAP, but their inefficiency and inability to cease the nuisance has literally been a waste of my time. MPD, while typically more effective at stopping the

nuisance, often takes anywhere from 30 minutes to 1 hour to respond, enforcement is not consistent and seems like an extravagant use of public resources. If the nuisance generators are large parties more than 20 or a backyard full of people, I will simply note the address and call MPD. Experience has taught me that as a visible individual complainant I will quickly be ridiculed, challenged and subjected to other symptoms of nuisance. Afterwards, I spend time composing and sending an email with a report of the incident.

In addition to addressing these nighttime nuisances, I also report to the city on excessive waste, public space maintenance and derelict properties; oftentimes simply taking the initiative myself, where appropriate, and maintaining public spaces, picking up litter and shoveling sidewalks. Far from being problems to be ignored or abandoned by moving away, I count these experiences as challenges and opportunities for community growth.

I will not go into further details here but will propose a motion that approval of this campus plan is unacceptable until 100% of the students are housed on GU's campus.