

OFFICE OF ZONING
2011 MAY 27 AM 11:52

May 23, 2011

D.C. Zoning Commission
Suite #210
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: Opposition to Georgetown University Campus Plan 2010-2020, Case #10-32

Dear Zoning Commissioners:

My wife and I have owned 3263 N Street in Georgetown for approximately two years. A number of years ago we lived at a home on R Street in Georgetown. Since we have moved to Georgetown, I have been appalled by the effect that Georgetown University's off-campus student population has had on the residential community of Georgetown and the fact that the university and the university's security division seems either unwilling or incapable of controlling this situation. The noise from N Street, particularly late at night and early in the morning on the weekends, has made it necessary for us to move our bedroom from the street side to the back side of the home. There are trash cans and garbage in front of houses that are apparently being rented to students on days that there is no trash pickup with no apparent attempt to control these violations.

The properties that are being rented to Georgetown students are often extremely poorly maintained by their landlords, which clearly has a detrimental effect to the property values and the enjoyment of this community by the full-time residents. We have had several examples of vandalism on our own property, which I strongly suspect are related to intoxicated students returning from the Georgetown bars. As best as I can tell, the university is relying on the residents to report these areas of misconduct rather than making any concerted effort to prevent such problems from occurring.

I believe that the university's attempt to increase its enrollment levels without increasing on-campus housing enough to accommodate the students will only increase a problem that is already very significant. I graduated from Harvard University. This is a university within a city as well, but the university always managed to house all of their students on campus, with the only exception being for married students. I do not believe that Georgetown should be permitted to increase their student enrollment unless the students can be housed strictly on campus. I also believe that the commission should readopt its former goal of insisting that Georgetown house 100% of its undergraduates on campus. I believe that sanctions should be strengthened in order

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 10-32
EXHIBIT NO. 261

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to reduce disorderly student behavior in the residential areas of Georgetown and to be certain that sanctions be applied by the university when appropriate.

I am Clinical Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Georgetown University Medical School and have been extremely loyal and supportive to the university since I joined the medical center's clinical faculty in 1975. I have received recognition awards from the university and my department in the past. Despite this, however, I am adamantly opposed to the university's plan to increase enrollment without providing on-campus housing, not just for any increased student enrollment, but also for all present university undergraduates.

I hope that the Zoning Commission will oppose the Georgetown University campus plan in the strongest possible terms and encourage Georgetown to house all of its present undergraduates on campus by increasing on-campus housing. I believe that failure to do so will very adversely affect the Georgetown residential community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RO Gordon M.D.", written in a cursive style.

Robert O. Gordon, M.D.

ROG/kad