

June 18, 2011

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Dear Chairman Hood and Commissioners:

I am writing to oppose in the strongest way possible approval of Georgetown University's request for a continuance of the hearing scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2011. As Chairman, you generously scheduled the Monday hearing to allow GU a "second" chance to submit a viable transportation report that we all hoped would address both DDOT's requirements for proper review and the needs of the communities surrounding the University. GU has had many years to prepare a credible Campus Plan that would respond to the critical neighborhood problems resulting from its past and current policies. Likewise, the University has had years to draw up a thoughtful transportation plan that DDOT could adequately review. GU has done neither. The resubmission of a plan so poorly done it could not be adequately evaluated by DDOT and without appreciable modification is a clear example of how GU has consistently responded to the neighborhoods and now to the Zoning Commission (ZC). GU has long been disdainful of its surrounding neighbors' justified pleas for help, but the recent disrespect it has shown for the ZC and for DDOT's requirements is shocking. The ZC and DDOT have made all efforts possible to ensure that GU's positions, rebuttals, witnesses and requests for submission of additional reports and information were considered. Now the University has, for a second time, submitted an unacceptable transportation report that DDOT and the parties have rejected.

A continuance would only benefit Georgetown University and its ongoing efforts to expand an already unacceptably high enrollment and to encroach on the surrounding neighborhoods unimpeded. It surely allows the school more time to continue its activities that are unauthorized and "objectionable to neighboring properties." Simply put, GU should not be allowed to delay until the Fall the submission of a credible transportation plan. The University has had two chances and failed, perhaps deliberately, to allow more time to grow its numbers of students. The constant little "gifts" offered by GU to soften the serious deficiencies of the Campus Plan are unacceptable and will not make a difference in our lives, because the 2010-2020 Plan still falls far short of addressing the vital issues affecting us in Burleith and West Georgetown, and because the University has proven untrustworthy over the years.

I wish GU had behaved more responsibly now and over the past years, and that I had not been compelled to write such a letter.

Thank you for consideration of my views.



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ZC CASE NUMBER 10-32

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 10-32

EXHIBIT NO. 307