

Gail H Henry
3817 T Street NW
Washington DC 20007

19 June 2011

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ZONING COMMISSION
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Anthony J. Hood, Konrad W. Schlater, Greg Selfridge, Michael G. Turnbull, Pete G. May
DC Zoning Commission
DC Office of Zoning

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to strongly oppose approval of Georgetown University's request for a continuance of the hearing scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2011. Commissioner Hood 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 quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods unimpeded. It also allows the school more time to continue its activities that are unauthorized and objectionable to neighboring properties. 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, which allows 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. The 2010-2020 Plan falls far short of addressing the vital issues affecting tax-paying citizens in Burleith and West Georgetown, and the University has proven itself to be untrustworthy over the years.

Thank you for consideration of my views. My elderly father died last month, and I need to return to NC to help my mother or I would be there on Monday to provide testimony in person.

Sincerely,



ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO.

EXHIBIT NO.

10-32
314