

Mike and Cheryl Naeve
3405 O Street
Washington, DC 20007

Mr. Anthony Hood, Chairman
DC Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission,

We are writing in support of Georgetown University's 2010-2020 campus plan. We have been residents of Georgetown for nearly a decade and draw great pleasure from the neighborhood, no small part of which comes from our close proximity to Georgetown University. When searching for our house in Georgetown we intentionally focused our search on the West Village neighborhood so that we could have the experience of living among members of the Georgetown University Community. In the years since relocating here we have met many faculty members and students, and our lives have been enriched from the experience.

Several of the houses on our block of O Street are occupied by students, and we never have had a bad experience with our student neighbors. Our street has considerable foot traffic as students pass by on their way from campus to off campus activities. We find the presence of young adults invigorating. We also believe the steady presence of student pedestrians makes the neighborhood safer. My wife is comfortable walking in our neighborhood after dark knowing that the streets are frequented by students.

We occasionally hear of neighbors complaining about the university or its students, and we find such complaints to be misplaced. Generally these are individuals who do not like living near students. We understand that some individuals may prefer to live in a different kind of neighborhood, but we cannot understand why such individuals would chose to buy or lease close to a major university. We occasionally attend neighborhood forums sponsored by the university, and consistently are embarrassed by how rude, demanding and unreasonable some of our neighbors can be.

In the time that we have lived near the campus we have found Georgetown University remarkably responsive to the needs of the Georgetown community. We exited our house last week to find a university employee picking up trash on the street—trash that had not been properly disposed of by our neighbor. The negligent neighbor is not a student or otherwise affiliated with the university.

In summation, we enjoy living close to Georgetown University, find the University attentive to its neighbors, and are pleased to support their 2010-2020 campus plan. Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 10-32
EXHIBIT NO. 43

Mike & Cheryl Naeve