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Foggy Bottom and West End
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC-2A)

c/o St. Mary's Court 725 24th Street, NW Washington, DC 20037 (202) 736-1775

April 18, 2000

00 MAR 19 P4:21

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid, Chair
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street, N.W. - Room 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: BZA Application No. 16553 -- George Washington University Foggy Bottom Campus Plan -- Years 2000-2010

Dear Chairperson Reid and Members of the Board:

On April 12, 2000, ANC-2A held its properly noticed monthly public meeting, and with all six commissioners present, unanimously approved Resolution 00-4C, copy attached, declaring George Washington University's (GWU) Foggy Bottom Campus Plan for the years 2000-2010 unacceptable as submitted.

Also on April 12, 2000, GWU filed an amended submission of its campus plan and traffic report (BZA Case No. 16553). The BZA hearing on the above application is scheduled for April 26, 2000, and the required filing deadline for ANC-2A's submission is April 19, so, with the required notice, a Special Public Meeting was called for April 17 to consider ANC's response to GWU's proposed campus plan..

The overarching matters of community concern are enumerated in the attached resolution. We look forward to the opportunity of presenting these concerns before the BZA.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Spillinger

Barbara Spillinger, Chair
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

Attachment
cc: Andrew Altman, OP

BZA
Case No. 16553
Exhibit No. 113

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16553
EXHIBIT NO.113

THE FOGGY BOTTOM/WEST END ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION
(ANC-2A) passed the following Resolution #00-4C
April 12, 2000

WHEREAS George Washington University (GWU) has filed with the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) an application for approval of its Foggy Bottom Campus Plan for the years 2000 through 2010; and

WHEREAS community representatives have met repeatedly and at length with representatives of the University to explore whether there were areas of common agreement in the proposal;

WHEREAS these discussions met with limited success, but failed to resolve major areas of contention;

WHEREAS the University's heavily increased enrollment of full time students over the period of the current campus plan, without commensurate available dormitory space, has created an environment where students are forced to seek housing in the surrounding residential neighborhood, resulting in the displacement and flight of tax-paying residents;

WHEREAS the University's response to these conditions has been to purchase properties outside its campus boundaries including many apartment buildings, residences and hotels, and states that it intends to continue these practices without provision for review or regulation of its acquisitions;

WHEREAS such practices obviate the purpose of Campus Plan boundaries;

WHEREAS Universities are not permitted in residential and special purpose districts as a matter of right; the Zoning Regulations afford no privileged position to colleges and universities, and the thrust of the Zoning Regulations is to keep universities from expanding into residential neighborhoods without control;

WHEREAS the Comprehensive Plan forcibly calls attention to the negative impact of GWU's intrusion into the surrounding residential neighborhood;

WHEREAS the DC Zoning Regulations stipulate that use as a college or university shall be located so that it is not likely to become objectionable to neighboring property because of noise, traffic, number of students, or other objectionable conditions; and

WHEREAS the Mayor has repeatedly emphasized the importance of providing and protecting housing for moderate income residents of inner city neighborhood rings;

NOW THEREFORE, ANC-2A finds GWU's Campus Plan as submitted unacceptable and asks particularly that student enrollment be curtailed until adequate on-campus housing, parking and other facilities are made available and result in a quantifiable decrease in the number of students forced to live in the surrounding off campus residential neighborhood.

DATE: April 12, 2000

SMD	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	MOVED	SECONDED
01 SHEEHEY	X				X	
02 PRICE	X					
03 TYLER	X					
04 SPILLINGER	X					
05 MILLER	X					X
06 MANDELBAUM	X					

Barbara Spillinger
CHAIRPERSON/SECRETARY