COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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May 10, 2000

Sheila Reid Cross, Chair
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

Ref: George Washington University Campus Plan BZA Application No. 16553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Had George Washington University (GWU) completed a responsible development plan in a timely fashion and in accordance with the established campus plan, our city would not have to choose between saving a neighborhood or permitting unrestricted University expansion. I have been watching closely GWU's expansion into adjacent neighborhoods.

GWU recently purchased the former Howard Johnson's Hotel to create a dormitory, with resultant loss in real estate, hotel and sales taxes paid by its guests. GWU also purchased and demolished buildings on Squares 43 and 151, removing these buildings from the tax rolls. And, George Washington University recently purchased a portion of the Columbia Plaza moderate-income rental complex where many students reside.

George Washington University is an asset to our city. Nonetheless, it is clear we must address the University's expansion and insist upon compliance with a realistic campus plan in order to preserve and restore residential neighborhoods such as Foggy Bottom.

Sincerely,

Carol Schwartz
Councilmember, At-large

CS/ja

BZA
Case No. 16553
Exhibit No. 160

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16553
EXHIBIT NO.160