March 24, 2000

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Sheila Reid-Cross, Chairman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Re: The George Washington University Campus Plan
Board of Zoning Adjustment Application No. 16553

Dear Members of the Board:

As a resident of Ward 2 and a neighbor of The George Washington University, I am writing this letter in support of the above-referenced application. The proposed plan is well designed and sensitive to the Foggy Bottom community. It is based on a careful and detailed assessment of the needs of the University and addresses many of the concerns expressed by the community. Through extensive outreach over the past 15 months, the University has demonstrated a strong interest in working with the community.

As outlined in the Campus Plan, the University is committed to enhancing the identity of the campus and enriching the surrounding neighborhood with landscaping, signage and open space improvements. The proposed plan calls for substantially less new construction than what was approved in the 1985 Plan. Further, there are no changes proposed to the student, faculty and staff caps approved in 1985. Since the plan is modest in scope, I do not believe that it will result in detrimental impacts to the surrounding neighbors. In fact, given the proposed open space improvements and increase in on-campus housing, the plan will benefit the neighborhood.

Based on my personal experience, I believe that GW has been a good neighbor and its presence enriches the community. The University assists neighbors and local business in maintaining the safety, beauty and charm of Foggy Bottom. The Campus Plan will allow GW to continue and strengthen its commitment to the local community.

For all these reasons, I urge your approval of this application.

BZA
Case No. 16553
Exhibit No. 56

Sincerely,

Edward A. Metz

cc: Andrew Altman, Director, Office of Planning

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16553
EXHIBIT NO.56