313 Tennessee Avenue, N.E.
Washington, DC 20002
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Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA
Director, Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street. N.W., Suite 210-S
Washington, D.C. 20001

To the Board:

I am writing regarding BZA application #76643, concerning the potential closing of the Georgetown Flea Market.

As you know, the Georgetown Flea Market has been an institution for many years, including 12 years in the current location. The overwhelming majority of area citizens support the continued survival of the Hardy School Flea Market, and the Georgetown ANC (2E) and Burleith Citizens Association (3B) have passed resolutions in support.

But you no doubt already know all that. What I want to add is a personal touch. When I became suddenly separated 2 years ago and was forced to find alternative housing, the Georgetown Flea Market became an indispensable and affordable source of furniture and furnishings for my new apartment and then home. I simply could not afford to buy an entire house full of brand-new furniture from some suburban mall warehouse. Nor did I wish to, once I realized what a treasure-house of high-quality, charming, and affordable furnishings the Flea Market is. I'm only now ready to look for those little finishing touches that add charm to any home, and I know I can find everything I want at the Flea Market.

The Market also brings vitality to a school parking lot which would otherwise be desolate on Sundays. The social interaction is vital to the community. Both dealers and browsers are a delightful group. My dog even enjoys ambling through the rows of dealers, picking up treats from friendly people along the way. And many dollars worth of sales are conducted; do we really want that revenue to escape the District into neighboring jurisdictions?

As you can tell by my address, I don't live in Burleith. But I am willing to travel across town for the selection, bargains, and truly priceless finds available there. That is how important the Georgetown Flea Market is to me, and to countless others. I urge the BZA to allow the continued survival of the Georgetown Flea Market at Hardy School. What technical zoning regulation could possibly justify the loss of such a treasure?

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Carlton

BZA
Case No. 16642
Exhibit No. 28

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16642
EXHIBIT NO.28