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Hello, As a resident of Washington DC since 1978, and a resident of Georgetown since 2004, I OPPOSE Harvard University trying to put office space into 3100 R St NW (residential home). Harvard could EASILY rent office space 1 block away and allow residents to live in peace and quiet. It is not like they would be several miles away. 1 block away on Wisconsin Ave NW is less than a 3-minute walk to Dumbarton Oaks.

It is logical that residential areas stay as residential, and commercial areas stay as commercial areas. I do not see Catholic, Howard, UDC, Gallaudet, or American Universities purchasing residential homes with the intent of eventually utilizing it for office space. I graduated from Catholic University, and I have lived in 80% of our Wards. Encroaching on a residential area is not very neighborly. DC needs more housing not less. It is a shame that Harvard would not be paying taxes due to their non-profit status as well. I attended the meeting at the Georgetown Library on Monday July 29. I was a little taken back when Harvard's attorney/applicant admitted this was an exercise to "tax dodge" multiple times. DC has a budget shortfall, and it is very sad that they would be dodging their obligation to help our beautiful city. Why would the city tolerate having the richest university in the world avoid paying taxes. We are all DC residents and ALL of us need to pay our fair share in taxes to pay for our infrastructure and services. I actually enjoy paying my DC taxes because our city is well managed and very clean. The DC government deserves every penny in order to continue to do a great job and give the DC government employees the necessary resources and salary to raise a family. On the other hand, avoid paying taxes is terrible in this situation.

We cannot allow this to happen. It is SIMPLY WRONG! Thank you.

William McNamara

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