

# West End Citizens Association Washington, D.C.

Boundaries: 15th Street on the East - Potomac Park on the South Rock Creek and the Potomac on the West - N Street on the North

October 14, 2019

Ms. Sara Benjamin Bardin Director, Office of Zoning 441-4th Street, N.W. - Suite 210 Washington, DC 20001

Re:

Request for Party Status – Zoning Commission Case Nos. 06-12Q, 06-11Q, 06-11R, & 01-17E, GWU – Modifications of Significance, Campus Plan Amendment, Further Processing Campus Plan (many Squares)

#### Dear Ms. Bardin:

The West End Citizens Association (WECA) is herein requesting "Party" status in **Support** for Zoning Commission Case Nos. 06-12Q, 06-11Q, 06-11R, and 01-17E, George Washington University (GWU) — Modifications of Significance, Campus Plan Amendment, and Further Processing Campus Plan — relating to Thurston Hall. On August 20, 2019, the WECA Board voted unanimously to support these contested cases. Previously, the WECA was granted "Party" status in **Opposition** for the GWU Campus Plan case, the Omnibus PUD case, and some of the follow-on Campus Plan cases.

The WECA is pleased to support the requested Special Exception relief for lot occupancy, penthouse height, and penthouse setback requirements for the no-more-than-2-years Temporary Housing Plan. The WECA is pleased that GWU is trying to improve the campus experience for its students by its extensive renovation plan of the Thurston Hall dormitory for freshmen.

As requested by the Office of Zoning (OZ), please find attached a completed Form 140, "Party Status Request," for these cases to be heard simultaneously on December 2, 2019 (see the Attachment). OZ's Form requires all of the substantive information to be provided in an accompanying document. This letter includes the requested information.

#### Witness Information

- A list of witnesses who will testify on the person's behalf: WECA President Sara Maddux or WECA Secretary-Treasurer Barbara Kahlow (Mrs. Kahlow will be out-of-town on December 2<sup>nd</sup>).
- 2. A summary of the testimony of each witness: In sum, the WECA will discuss various subjects, such as: (a) its support for the requested Special Exceptions, (b) its support for the time-limited Temporary Housing Plan due to the Thurston renovation, and (c) its expectation that GWU will not request any further Temporary Housing Plans outside of the Campus Plan boundaries for any future dormitories that may be extensively renovated.
- 3. An indication of which witnesses will be offered as expert witnesses, the areas of expertise in which any experts will be offered, and the resumes or qualifications of the proposed experts: none.

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4. The total amount of time being requested to present the case: 10 minutes.

## Party Status Criteria

- 1. How will the property owned or occupied by such person, or in which the person has an interest be affected by the action requested of the Commission?: The WECA includes 50 Members who are joined at meetings by other interested residents of the Foggy Bottom-West End community. The WECA Members live in a wide variety of residential buildings throughout Foggy Bottom-West End. The WECA's boundaries are from 15th Street on the East, Potomac Park on the South, Rock Creek and the Potomac on the West, and N Street on the North.
- 2. What legal interest does the person have in the property? (i.e., owner, tenant, trustee, or mortgagee): The WECA has many owners and long-term residential tenants with a legal interest in the subject property.
- 3. What is the distance between the person's property and the property that is the subject of the application before the Commission? (Preferably no farther than 200 ft.): The subject property lies within the WECA's boundaries.
- 4. What are the environmental, economic or social impacts that are likely to affect the person and/or the person's property if the action requested of the Commission is approved or denied?: The Application would affect the quality of life of many WECA Members.
- 5. Describe other relevant matters that demonstrate how the person will likely be affected or aggrieved if the action requested of the Commission is approved or denied: If the Application is approved, it would not harm the WECA Members who live nearby Thurston and the harm to the WECA Members who live near One Washington Circle and the Aston would be time-limited.
- 6. Explain how the person's interest will be more significantly, distinctively, or uniquely affected in character or kind by the proposed zoning action than that of other persons in the general public: If the requests are denied, the interests of many WECA Members would be more significantly, distinctively, or uniquely affected than the general public.

If any additional information is needed, Barbara Kahlow can be reached during the day on (202) 965-1083.

Sincerely,

Sara Maddux

Sara Maddux

(B14)

President

Attachment

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on October 14, 2019, a copy of this Party Request letter was served on the following:

# The George Washington University

c/o David Avitabile, Esq.
Goulston & Storrs
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#### ANC-2A-01

Commissioner Patrick Kennedy 532-20<sup>th</sup> Street, NW #312 Washington, DC 20006 2A01@anc.dc.gov

# **DC Office of Planning**

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## ANC-2A

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#### Foggy Bottom Association

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## **DC** Department of Transportation

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Barbara F. Kahlow

WECA Secretary-Treasurer

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