Carol Mitten, Chair
DC Zoning Commission
441 4th St., NW, Suite 210
Washington DC. 20001

May 14, 2003

Dear Mrs. Mitten,

As a former high school rower in the Washington Area and as a current user of the Capitol Crescent Trail in Georgetown, I am concerned that the construction of a new Georgetown University boathouse west of Key Bridge would severely decrease my ability to access and enjoy the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. As a past user of Thompson's Boathouse in the District, I am very familiar with how much traffic a facility like that proposed would bring to the area. I have twice been present when bicyclists have been hit by cars on Water St. N.W., near the Aqueduct Bridge. I am concerned that these events may be signs of a larger trend, that area is already dangerous for pedestrians.

The area in question is extremely popular with joggers, bicyclists, and families out for a walk. Cars turning around when they reach the end of the roadway too often fail to safely take into account that there are pedestrians of many speeds constantly approaching from both directions. Of particular concern is that increases in traffic stemming from the development of Tract 102-114 as a private boathouse would coincide with those times of day when current pedestrian traffic in the area is greatest.

While I am a great proponent of improving rowing facilities in the area, I hope decisions will not be made at the cost of the safety of those who already use and enjoy our national park. I hope you will consider zoning the entire Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park riverfront from the Key Bridge to the District Line to eliminate any new development.

Sincerely,

Jonathan West

2003 MAY 15 PM 3:27

Jonathan West
6622 32nd St., N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20015

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-30
Exhibit 135

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.135