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May 9, 2003

D.C. ZONING COMMISSION
2003 MAY 12 PM 3:02

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

Re: **Case No. 02-30; Georgetown University Boathouse**

Dear Ms. Mitten:

I write in support of the proposed Georgetown University Boathouse. This proposal has already been presented and approved by the local ANC, the Old Georgetown Board, the Commission on Fine Arts and the Georgetown Waterfront Commission, and I request the Zoning Commission give its approval, as well, so that this worthwhile project may become a reality.

The design has received praise from the Old Georgetown Board and the Fine Arts Commission, and it will enhance the DC shoreline, complementing the Potomac Boat Club and the Washington Canoe Club, as well as the Georgetown University skyline, generally. In addition to its static appeal, the Georgetown Boathouse will serve the needs of scores of athletes, rowers and sailors who grace the Potomac River from the early dawn to sunset cutting a quiet and distinctive and distinguished image. Indeed, the site and purpose of the Georgetown University Boathouse complies with an promotes the U.S. Park Service's plan for non-motorized, non-polluting boating on the Potomac River.

There is a pressing need for additional rowing facilities on the Potomac River. Rowers in Washington, DC are currently concentrated in two locations, Thompson's Boat Center near the Watergate Complex and the Potomac Boat Club near Key Bridge. The very sizeable Georgetown University Rowing program has been based out of Thompson's for well nearly 40 years, and its relocation to the Georgetown University Boathouse will free up substantial space at that already over crowded facility for other High School and Collegiate

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Exhibit 147

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District of Columbia
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rowing programs. Indeed, the space crisis will be greatly exacerbated when construction of the proposed Swedish Embassy adjacent to Thompson's results in the loss of the outdoor storage compound for dozens of shells and rowing equipment.

The proposal for the Georgetown University Boathouse is clearly in the public interest, and I add my voice to those requesting that the Commission promptly approve the project.

Respectfully submitted,

William G. Miossi

bcc: Tony Johnson