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Priscilla and Art Hoffman-Stowe

Ms. Carol Mitten
Chair
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th St., N.W., Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

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D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2003 MAY 23 PM 4:08

REF: Case No. 02-30

May 19, 2003

Dear Ms. Mitten:

I am writing to urge the Zoning Commission not to approve the Georgetown boathouse proposal. As proposed, the building of a massive private structure on pristine public parkland would destroy wetlands and wildlife habitat owned and enjoyed by the public. The area would be double the size of the historic neighboring Washington Canoe Club (WCC) and would block the public's view of the river from the canal. The land now used for the bike trail would become part of the boathouse and would affect hundreds of citizens who currently enjoy this increasingly rare wild area of Washington.

As the parents of a WCC kayak team member, the scale of the proposed GU boathouse especially concerns us. The docks for this boathouse would extend 70 feet into the river, blocking DC side upstream river access as well as eliminating the WCC race course which has been in use for over 100 years and on which many noted Olympic athletes have trained. The boathouse traffic would greatly increase river congestion and pose a danger to the children on the WCC teams as well as to the general public. A boathouse built downstream from us would be more in line with current development, would not negatively affect the environment or the public's enjoyment of parkland, and would preserve the WCC's ability to train and nurture world-class young athletes.

Please protect our environment, the historic Washington Canoe Club, and the rights of boaters and the public to have safe access to the Potomac.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Hoffman Stowe Art Hoffman-Stowe

Priscilla and Art Hoffman-Stowe

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-30
Exhibit 225

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.225