SYLVIA S. WINIK
7506 FAIRFAX ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20814
301/656-6827
301/656-6235 (FAX)
SWINIK@EARTHLINK.NET

D.C. ZONING
2003 JUN -4 PM 2:24

May 30, 2003

Zoning Commission
Carol Mitten, Chair
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Case 02-30, Georgetown University Boathouse

Dear Members of the Commission:

I am the parent of a high school student who was new to the sport of rowing this year. She is a coxswain, and has fallen in love with both the sport and its healthy camaraderie, and with the Potomac River, through her experience this spring. I have become familiar with the boathouse issues this past year. As a lawyer, I am convinced of the appropriateness of Georgetown University's request for a zoning determination that would permit them to build the proposed boathouse along the Potomac River, on Tract 102-114. **I am writing to support Georgetown's request.**

Since boathouses need to be on the river, use of land for boathouses along the river must be appropriate. Rowing does nothing to endanger the River, and on the contrary, develops a sensitivity to environmental issues and a love of nature in the students who spend so much time on the River and learn its every rock and current. It is my understanding that rowing accounts for more people-hours of recreational river use in this location than any other activity. As is evident on Philadelphia's Schuylkill River, boathouses on the river do not encumber the river; they enhance it.

I further understand that the proposed boathouse would be of reasonable size, would not create any regular vehicular traffic to the site, and would be totally non-polluting. In addition, the proposed boathouse has been in planning for years, with public negotiations, to ensure that it would not hinder other uses of the River. Moreover, I understand that the proposed Georgetown boathouse is needed to enable high schoolers to continue to house their boats at the Georgetown waterfront, and this location is the only feasible site for our students to row in the early morning before school, and immediately after school. Without this boathouse, our students could no longer row. Such a loss would not be in the public interest.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-30
Exhibit 278

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.277

I appreciate your consideration of these comments, and hope that they are of assistance to the Commission in reaching the right decision on this matter.

Respectfully yours,



Sylvia S. Winik