My name is Holly Pollinger and I am here tonight as a private citizen.

I have lived in Washington for 30 years and during that time have enjoyed the river in all seasons. I have watched Washington grow from a rather sleepy southern town into a modern city. Planners for Washington have been mostly excellent and used good moral judgement when it came to balance what kind of development the city needs and what kind of development enterprising developers want.

There has been a tendency recently, however, for redevelopment of homes and buildings to be constructed and renovated without the best interests of the community in mind. In particular, we have all seen lovely old homes torn down and duplexes or new houses built that overwhelm the space they are in and the neighborhoods where they are situated. Some call them "McMansions" and others call them "Starter Castles" – but whatever they are called, they are essentially based on a type of greed and arrogance – with disregard for the surrounding community and for the greater architectural beautification of Washington.

This is what, I believe, has overtaken the Georgetown University boathouse planners. The boathouse, as it is designed now, is probably mostly legal, uses lovely materials and the shape of the boathouse reflects an Old World design.

But, ladies and gentlemen, this boathouse is just too big for the neighborhood. It has become a "McBoathouse."

And the reason it got so big was this creeping type of greed and arrogance – a reflection of what Georgetown University wants and not what it needs. A reflection of the attitude that bigger is better and the community be darned.

We ask you to please scale it back to fit its environment.

To be good stewards.

Nestle it into the river bank and let it serve the kids in a way that everyone can be pleased with it – environmentally, functionally, and as a source of pride for all the future generations of Georgetown University students.

Thank you.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
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Exhibit 357

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