Ms. Carol Mitten, Chair
DC Zoning Commission
441 4th St, NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001 Dear Ms. Mitten! 4/26/2004

I the undersigned Andrew Szente, Sr. urge you not to change the zoning in Case #02-30 for the following reasons:

I am opposing to the loss of public parkland. The proposed boathouse would obstruct the river view and the beautiful view of the Key Bridge from the Capitol Crescent Trail.

The present wildlife would be lost forever. All the beautiful birds, ducks, deers and other animals would disappear due to the noise and added traffic.

The proposed boathouse will be disproportional to the existing Washington Canoe Club.

The proposed one is too close to the WCC; it might affect the foundation and structure of the historic WCC building.

During the two-year construction and many weekends afterwards, it will disturb the recreation activities on the trail. The trail is ONY 10.5 Ft wide on one side there is a 1 ft wide strip and on the WCC side there is a 3 FT wide strip available for foot traffic. The boaters will pack-up and un-pack their boats at least twice a month when they will travel to other racing sites. This construction and the Bus traffic of coaches and students of GU will greatly disturb the walker's, jogger's and bicyclist's use of the trail every day but particularly at the weekends.

The proposed boathouse will have a 240 ft long unsightly dock, which will protrude into the river stream by 50 ft.

The coaching Staff's motorboats will disturb the wildlife and the boating and camping recreations in the vicinity. The wake of the motorboats will erode the unprotected shorelines. At the present location of the Thompson boat house the riverbank is paved protecting the shoreline.

As racing members of the WCC, our activities will be curtailed too. The proposed dock will cut down our racing course and the departing and arriving rowing boats would obstruct our access to our own boathouse.

The size of the proposed boathouse does not keep up with any of the current boating facilities on the Potomac.

The constant auto/bus traffic to the boathouse will impact the pedestrian use of the trail.

I respectfully request after your thorough review of the rezoning request, that you reject it.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew Szente

Andrew Szente
European/World Champion
Two time Olympic silver medallist
12992 Thistlethorn Dr
Herndon, Va 20171

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-30
Exhibit 42

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.42