7800 MacArthur Blvd
Cabin John, MD 20818
April 27, 2003

Ms. Carol Mitten
Chair, D.C. Zoning Commission
441 Fourth Street NW., Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2003 APR 30 PM 3:29

Dear Ms. Mitten:

As a lifetime member of the Washington Canoe Club, I should like to comment on the proposed Georgetown University Rowing Club development plans, which have been submitted to the D.C. Zoning Commission. The rowing and social club building plans have been proposed for a new building to be erected just above the Washington Canoe Club (WCC).

All the WCC members with whom I have talked regarding this proposed huge rowing club building have expressed great alarm at the prospect of such a development. We understand that a number of other local neighborhood and environmental groups have also expressed serious concern over the prospect of such a construction.

In the first place, the riverside location in question fronts on a very shallow part of the river—so much so that, if the rowing club is built, the river would likely require annual dredging to constitute a feasible, ongoing boating club. The Three Sisters Islands—just above the proposed club site—slows down the swift spring currents, causing the heavily embedded sediment in the river water to drop to the river bottom just below these islands. I learned this the hard way, attempting to Eskimo roll at that site.

Among the many concerns expressed by WCC and other interested groups are the following:

- A serious loss of riverside parkland.
- A major reduction in the in-city (Washington, DC) viewing of the Potomac River.
- Construction of the proposed edifice would put great pressure on the land immediately behind the WCC—as building supplies would be trucked upstream, over what is estimated to be a 2-year construction period.
- The increase in auto and truck (towing of 4- and 8-person shells) traffic will impede both hiker and biker activities along the Crescent Trail—which passes immediately back of the Washington Canoe Club.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-30-02-31
Exhibit 47

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-31
EXHIBIT NO.47

- Docks for the Georgetown University Rowing Club are projected to thrust 50 feet into the Potomac River, thus narrowing the lanes available to rowers and paddlers.

We respectfully request that Georgetown University officials be required to apply for revised zoning and building authorization—for a space further downriver, where the river is appropriately deeper and wider for their purposes.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Sullivan

Daniel J. Sullivan, Esq.