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2003 MAY 12 PM 3:29

Ms. Carol Mitten
Chair, DC Zoning Commission
441 4th St., NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Mitten:

Re: Cases 02-30 and 02-31

I am writing to express my opposition to Georgetown University's request to build a boathouse on parkland west of Key Bridge.

I bike that area a lot and think that the proposed building would be inappropriate, environmentally insensitive and would block one of the best views of the bridge.

I also believe that if this land should be used for anything other than parkland (which I don't think it should), then I think it should be offered for sale like any other property. The university should not receive any special treatment.

Let me add all of theses additional reasons for denying this proposal:

- The Potomac River area west of Key Bridge is one of the most scenic treasures of the nation's capital, and no new development should be permitted there.

- The land at this location forms part of a public "gateway" at the entrance to the C&O National Historical Park and is valued by hikers, bikers, boaters, tourists and others.

- The land -- on a flood plain and therefore a wetland area -- should remain untouched and in the public domain.

- Public land should not be used for private development, especially in this case when a reasonable alternative is available east of Key Bridge.

- The enormous size of the proposed structure would interfere with the scenic views of the surrounding area from the River, the C&O Canal Towpath and the Capital Crescent Trail (CCT).

- There would be many unknown negative impacts -- including safety issues for CCT users -- during and following the construction period, as well as potential damage to a historic structure adjacent to the proposed site of the GU boathouse.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-31
Exhibit 96

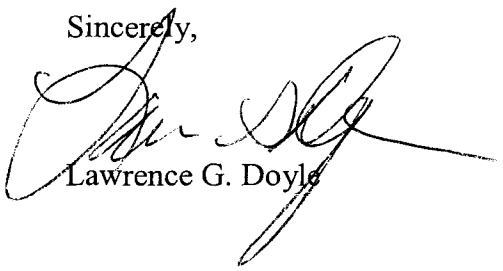
ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-31
EXHIBIT NO.96

- The environmental assessment for a land exchange related to the GU boathouse proposal -- produced before the size of the boathouse structure was known -- is over five years old and needs updating.

- The private docks extending into the river would restrict boat traffic.

Thank you for considering these views in opposition to the proposed GU boathouse.

Sincerely,



Lawrence G. Doyle