HOWARD UNIVERSITY

HOWARD UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bruce Costello
Special Assistant to the President
For Capital Projects

FROM: Maybelle Taylor Bennett
Director
Howard University Community Association

RE: **Status of the Community Advisory Committee**

DATE: 4 August 2003

In response to the question posed by Maxine Brown of the D.C. Office of Planning, "How is the Howard University Advisory Council working?" I offer the following response.

The University established the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in fulfillment of condition number 10 in BZA Order No. 16330 which approved the 1998 Howard University Campus Plan. That condition reads:

> "There shall be established a Howard University Advisory council composed of representatives of the University, affected Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (including but not limited to ANC 1B And ANC 5C), representatives selected by civic associations surrounding the campus (including but not limited to Pleasant Plains, Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park), interested student organizations, and other interested community groups. The Howard University Advisory Council shall meet on a regular basis, or a minimum of four time annually, to discuss the effects of University activities on the surrounding community and other issues of mutual concern." (p. 14, Order No. 16330)

In general, the establishment of the CAC has: improved overall communication between the University and the community leadership in neighborhoods that surround the campus; facilitated the resolution of specific problems raised by the neighbors and the University through the establishment of working groups; yielded tangible neighborhood improvements through cooperative working relationships between the University, the residents, and the city; and created an amenable forum for ongoing discussion and debate around unresolved areas of concern.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 03-17
Exhibit 21

2731 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20059
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ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.03-17
EXHIBIT NO.21

I. Improved Communication between the University and Community Leadership

A. Sixteen quarterly Community Advisory Committee meetings have been convened by the University since the BZA order approving the 1998 Campus Plan was signed in March, 1999.

25 May 1999
22 September 1999
15 December 1999

22 March 2000
22 June 2000
26 September 2000
19 December 2000 (Cancelled due to threat of snow.)

31 January 2001
16 May 2001
2 October 2001
18 December 2001

11 March 2002
12 June 2002
30 October 2002
17 December 2002

19 March 2003
24 July 2003

Greater community accessibility to University staff has taken place, including: Senior Vice President, Chief of Campus Police, Howard University Homecoming organizers (both students and staff); Director of the Small Business Development Center; Director of the Center for Urban Progress, and Associate Vice President for Administration.

B. Working Groups have been established around issues raised at the hearing on the 1998 campus plan, in response to the LeDroit Park Initiative, and in meetings of the Community Advisory Committee. An additional thirty-one meetings of working groups have taken place in an effort to resolve the issues raised.

1. **Traffic Mitigation** (campus plan issue) **and Infrastructure Improvements** (LeDroit Park Initiative); meetings held:

   7 December 1999
   25 February 2000
   31 May 2000
   25 October 2000
   13 February 2001
   23 May 2001
   22 August 2001

2. **Neighborhood Stabilization** (LeDroit Park Initiative); meetings held:

   1 December 1999
   14 March 2000
   19 June 2000
   4 June 2001
   11 June 2001

3. **Mary Church Terrell Home Redevelopment** (campus plan issue and LeDroit Park Initiative); meetings held:

   26 May 1999
   24 July 2001 (LeDroit Park Civic Assn. convened meeting)
   28 August 2001 (LeDroit Park Civic Assn. convened meeting)
   30 May 2002
   11 July 2002 (@ Sorg and Associates, Architects and Planners)
   10 March 2003 (@ CarrAmerica)
   10 April 2003
   15 April 2003
   30 April 2003
   9 May 2003
   12 May 2003
   14 May 2003 (@ Dr. Minor's office w/ Carr America & Clark Construction)
   12 June 2003
   23 July 2003 (w/ Venable Law Firm to discuss steps for setting up a 501©(3) entity with their pro bono assistance)
   30 July 2003 (Reception for Mary Church Terrell Home restoration and museum organizing team)

4. **Grocery Outlet Development** (CAC meeting issue); meetings held:

   8 December 1999
   16 March 2000
   19 March 2003 (review of Town Center development team proposals, each of which included grocery outlets)

5. **Structure and Purpose of the CAC** (CAC meeting issue);

   19 April 2000

Greater attention to the details of specific issues has been facilitated during the course of working group meetings. In addition, access to government representatives from the D.C. Department of Public Works, legislative aides to Councilmembers, and experts commissioned by the University to conduct traffic and transportation studies was made available for the purpose of expanding the University and the community's understanding of the issues. In addition, more community members from outside of the Community Advisory Committee itself were able to be included in the discussions of specific issues (e.g. Mary Church Terrell Home redevelopment and the LeDroit Park infrastructure improvements).

II. Tangible Results Have Materialized as a Result of CAC Activities

1. Residents in the area felt that the accommodation of rush hour traffic along Fourth Street was a destabilizing influence on the historic residential community of LeDroit Park. As a result of a number of Traffic Mitigation working group meetings involving residents, representatives of DPW and the University, new regulations changing the traffic patterns along 4th Street have been published as final rulemaking in the D.C. Register on 22 June 2001. The new traffic patterns eliminate the accommodation of rush hour traffic into and out of the city along 4th Street, and preceded the installation of the infrastructure improvements scheduled for 4th Street as requested by the neighbors. Residential parking permit regulations were applied to the east side of 4th Street from Florida Avenue to "W" Street also as requested by the neighbors. New stop signs have been installed along "U" Street and 5th Street along with traffic calming paving improvements at intersections at 5th and "U" Streets, 6th and "U" Streets, 5th and Oakdale Place, and 3rd and Elm Streets.

2. Coordination of traffic pattern changes took place along with the installation of infrastructure improvements.

3 Mary Church Terrell Home working group requested and received structural porch reinforcements installed with a roof covering to prevent

damage to neighboring properties from falling slate. Mary Church Terrell working group members organized the development of neighborhood consensus regarding the preferred uses to which the Mary Church Terrell home should be put, namely a museum and cultural center with an accessory gift shop and space for meetings of the LeDroit Park Civic Association, the LeDroit Park Preservation Society, and the ANC single member district. In addition, the exhibit space could be used for occasionally scheduled receptions.

The University, community members, and preservation specialists have worked together to have the building taken off of DCRA's raze list in the fall of 2002, and submitted three proposals for funding to stabilize and restore the building and establish the museum and cultural center in 2003. These were submitted to the National Park Service's Save America's Treasures grant program, the HUD/HBCU grant program, and the CarrAmerica/Clark Construction development team for Terrell Place at 7th and "F" Streets, N.W.

On 30 July 2003, a reception was held for all of the members of the preservation and redevelopment team, the scholars and museum professionals, the civil rights and fraternal supporters of the project, the city's preservation officials, immediate neighbors of the Terrell home, interested residents, civic association and Preservation Society members, and pro bono legal counsel who will be working closely with the organizers of the home's restoration and museum founding efforts.

4. LeDroit Park Christmas caroling took place involving students and non-students, new and long-term residents on December 2000 at the suggestion and under the leadership of Ms. Iris Woodridge, Director of Mother Dear's Community Center, a CAC member.

5. Community support for having Howard University remain within Ward 1 together with University support for the same, resulted in success during the redistricting of councilmanic wards following the 2000 Census.

6. University support for the Nile Valley Association's Flea Market and interim use of the old pharmacy building for storage resulted in a new level of cooperation with area merchants.

7. The Grocery Outlet Development working group reviewed alternative grocery store replacement measures like food cooperatives and community gardens following the closure of the Safeway at 3rd Street and Rhode Island Avenue. In lieu of opting for trying to implement any of these alternatives, it chose to encourage the University to incorporate the development of a grocery outlet in its future plans for the area. This the University subsequently did in its plans for the Town Center that is

scheduled to be developed opposite the Howard University Hospital, pending successful negotiations with the city. The RFP released called for the inclusion of a grocery outlet, and a development team has been selected that has identified a potential grocery retailer for the site.

7. The CAC supported the University's acquisition of five properties from the Peoples Involvement Corporation, the Texaco property at Georgia and "W" Streets, and WMATA parcels #1 and #2 on the south side of Florida Avenue between 8th and 9th Streets.

III. Areas of Potential Ongoing Cooperation

1. McMillan Site Redevelopment
2. Grocery Outlet Development
3. Increasing protections for lower income, long-term residents against the adverse impacts of gentrification. The Neighborhood Stabilization working group invited legislative staff of Councilmembers Brazil and Catania to explain the Housing Omnibus Act of 2000 and other simultaneously introduced legislation designed to address these issues. Testimony developed by the working group with input from the University and its community neighbors was delivered on 11 June 2001 before the Council's Economic Development and Finance and Revenue Committees.
4. Identification of school and after school program information technology needs has been conducted for the purpose of determining the types and levels of technical assistance to provide.
5. A change in venue for the hearing of campus plans and proposed changes in zoning regulations was the subject of a roundtable discussion in July of 2000 at which University and a community CAC representative testified in support of the establishment of community advisory committees.

IV. Areas of Potential Ongoing Discussion

1. Privatization of Sixth Street
2. Presence of Vendors on Campus
3. Status of properties in need of redevelopment in and among newly developed housing.
4. Cooperative relationship between the D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation and Howard University on the use of the Banneker field and Howard athletic facilities respectively.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
Community Advisory Committee
FY 2004

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	AFFILIATION	ADDRESS	PHONE NO.
Mr. Cameron	Sullivan	Mayor's Executive Office	1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room C-9 Washington, D.C. 20004	(h)202/518-0221 (w) 202/724-7686
Mr. Jim	Graham	Councilmember, Ward 1	1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Room 406 Washington, D.C. 20004	(w) (202) 724-8181
Mr. Taft	Thompson	Office of Councilmember Jim Graham	1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Room 406 Washington, D.C. 20004	(w) (202) 724-8181
Mr. Vincent	Orange	Councilmember, Ward 5	1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004	(w) (202) 724-8028
Ms. Estelle	Lloyd	Office of Councilmember Vincent Orange	1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Suite 108 Washington, D.C. 20004	(w) (202) 724-8028
Mr. Raymond	Wright	ANC 1B11	235 "V" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	
Mr. Lawrence	Guyot	ANC 1B01	507 "U" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(h)(202) 332-5157 (w)202-727-4742/ 3557
Mr. Sinclair	Skinner	ANC 1B09	2626 Georgia Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(h) (202) 332-6873 (w) (202)265-9080
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Ms. Alice	Aughtry	LeDroit Park Civic Association	1862 Third Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202) 224-3622 (h) (202) 667-8234
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Ms. Cleopatra	Jones	President Bloomingdale Civic Association	117 Seaton Pl., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202) 234-2298
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Ms. Myla	Moss	President LeDroit Park Civic Association	335 "U" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(h) 462-4913 (w) 667-9433 myla.moss @att.net

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FY 2004

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Ms. Sharon	Brown	Three Corners Neighborhood Association	4938 Hampton Lane Bethesda, Maryland 20814	(w) (202) 332-9177
Mrs. Arlene	Patrom	Vice President, LeDroit Park Preservation Society	525 "T" St., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202) 232-4541
Mr. Ben	Jennings	United Planning Organization	301 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W. Suite #2002 Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202)238-4600 Ext. 692
Dr. Marilyn	Lashley	President, Crispus Attucks Development Corporation	2019 First Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(h) (202) 686-5166 (w) (202) 806-6724
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Ms. Andree	Gandy	Executive Director Peoples Involvement Corporation	2146 Georgia Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202)797-3900
Mr. Dominic	Moulden	Executive Director MANNA CDC	614"S" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202) 232-2844
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Mr. Palmer	Jackson	President, 7th and 9th Street Business and Property Owners Association	1924 – 9th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202) 829-1822
Rev. Dr. Earl	Trent	Pastor Florida Avenue Baptist Church	623 Florida Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202) 387-9696 or (w) (202) 667-3409
Father Vincent	Harris	Rector St. George's Episcopal Church	160 "U" Streets, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202) 387-6421
Rev. Herman	Ginwright	Pastor Highway Christian Church	432 "W" Streets, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001	(w) (202) 234-3940 (h) (202) 526-8442
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Ms. Candice	Jackson	Director for Community Services Howard University Student Association Community Outreach and Development Committee	Blackburn Center, Room 102-104 Washington, D.C. 20059	(w) (202) 806-7007
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