

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown and Hillandale

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Via Fax to 202-727-6072

December 8, 2008

Sharon Schellin
Secretary of the Zoning Commission
Office of Zoning
Suite 210
441 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

**Re: CASE NO. 08-06-7 (Comprehensive Zoning Regulations Rewrite:
Campus/Institutional)**

Dear Ms. Schellin:

ANC 2E adopted the following resolution at its public meeting held on November 3, 2008, which was duly noticed and at which a quorum was present of at least four commissioners:

ANC 2E, representing the communities of Georgetown, Burleith and Hillandale, appreciates the work of the Office of Planning in reviewing regulations relating to campus and institutional land uses in the District of Columbia.

We support the direction given in the Comprehensive Plan that the regulations "ensure" that such uses "are planned, designed, and managed in a way that minimizes objectionable impacts on adjacent communities."

We support the concept of developing a standard format for addressing a range of possible impacts of campus uses, as long as this includes addressing the full range of community issues and impacts. The impacts of Georgetown University on our community are very substantial, and it is crucial that the community have a full opportunity to identify and explore the impacts in detail in connection with a Campus Master Plan. Major impacts include, for example, the effects of off-campus student conduct, activities and housing; university expansion beyond boundaries and uses beyond boundaries; student and employee counts and caps; and management of traffic, parking, loading and university-provided transportation.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

COMMISSIONERS:

Ed Solomon, District 1 Ron Lewis, District 2 Bill Skelsey, District 3 Jenna Lowenstein, District 4
Bill Starrels, District 5 Tom Birch, District 6 Charles Eason, District 7

CASE NO. 08-06-7

EXHIBIT NO. 6

We support second stage review in all but the most insignificant cases and we urge the Office of Planning to tighten its proposal to reflect this. Our community needs second stage review for at least two reasons: to evaluate and appreciate the full details and impact of the specific proposals; and as a key available enforcement mechanism to encourage and ensure continuing compliance with the overall Campus Master Plan. Second stage review would not impose a material burden on the university in our community, where detailed historic preservation review is required in all events for all proposed construction, regardless of size. We suggest that one possible way to accommodate our concerns could be that any new regulations on second stage review at a minimum retain the full range of current second stage review for any university or institution located in whole or in part in an area designated as a National Historic Landmark, as the Georgetown Historic District is designated. Finally, with regard to second stage review – having proposed tightening the Office of Planning's recommendation – we note that we are opposed to the suggestions from the University Consortium that second stage review requirements be loosened still further.

We urge that the regulations retain both student and faculty/employee counts, which are essential in designing effective and appropriate caps that protect the community. The presence and possible expansion of a large hospital on the Georgetown University campus is an additional reason to retain employee counts.

Finally, we do not support the suggestion by the University Consortium that certain targeted phrases favorable to universities be added to the regulations. Without adding numerous targeted phrases from other sources that are favorable to the surrounding community, the Consortium's proposal could skew the regulations inappropriately.

On matters not discussed above, we reserve our position at this time.

We ask that the above resolution be included in the record in this matter.

By a separate communication, ANC 2E has requested to be heard on this matter at the public hearing scheduled for December 11, 2008. ANC 2E Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Skelsey, Lowenstein, Starrels, Birch and Eason, or any one or more of them, are authorized to represent ANC 2E in any proceeding relating to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald B. Lewis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ronald B. Lewis
ANC 2E Commissioner and Secretary, ANC 2E