



St. Patrick's
EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

Peter A. Barrett, *Head of School*

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March 15, 2010

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001

Regarding Zoning Commission Case Number 09-19

Dear Chairman Hood:

I am pleased to write in support of George Washington University's 2010 Mount Vernon Campus Plan and Ames Hall Renovation and Addition.

As you may recall, St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School, where I am Head of School, is located directly across Whitehaven Parkway, NW, from the Mount Vernon Campus. Indeed, the recent (and ongoing) construction of the Pelham dormitory and a new access road from Whitehaven to Pelham on the Mount Vernon Campus could have had major impacts on the operations of St. Patrick's School, including noise, traffic, and parking. However, GW and its contractors have worked closely with St. Patrick's at every step along the way to minimize, and even eliminate, any such impacts. While there is clearly a significant development project underway within view of our front steps, there has been little impact on our operations. GW has upheld every promise its representatives have made and exceeded our expectations as to the level of cooperation they would demonstrate during construction. We base our confidence that GW will uphold its promises in the ongoing development of its Mount Vernon Campus, including the Ames Hall Renovation and Addition, not on some idle hope, wishful thinking, or naiveté but on months and months of conversation, cooperation, and performance.

As part of the 2010 Campus Plan, GW will close its W Street entrance to regular traffic and use Whitehaven Parkway as its primary entrance. While this step will increase traffic on Whitehaven as more cars and other vehicles access that entrance, which is located just east of our campus, it is clear that both GW's and St. Patrick's efforts to manage the demands their traffic puts on the surrounding area will enable the easy coexistence of these uses.

I do encourage GW and its University Police Department to increase their efforts to prohibit all students, staff, and visitors from parking on neighboring streets and instead require them to park on campus. Given the distance from Whitehaven Parkway at which UPD will be located, I remain unconvinced that the Ames Hall Renovation and Addition will significantly enhance UPD's ability to enforce that policy along Whitehaven. That said, our close and ongoing cooperation with GW in matters affecting our shared interests and the quality of life along Whitehaven Parkway for both institutions as well as for the surrounding neighborhood makes it abundantly clear that GW is serious about being a good neighbor and determined to live up to its promises. I urge you to approve George Washington University's 2010 Mount Vernon Campus Plan and Ames Hall Renovation and Addition.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Barrett
Head of School

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 09-19
EXHIBIT NO. 10