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TO: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO USACE PUBLIC NOTICE PN 11-56

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To Whom It May Concern:

My wife and I own a 40 foot sailboat and have had the wonderful experience of being able to anchor in Washington Channel and tour DC from there. We do have a marina slip for our boat, but when traveling we really do enjoy anchoring out. And I do mean anchoring, not hanging on a mooring ball. Washington Channel is an excellent spot for this and it would truly be sad if this opportunity was lost to the many, many boaters who have yet to make the trip there.

Looking at the overhead photographs from the proposal it seems clear that there are already more than enough boat slips available. The current anchoring area is just able to comfortably accommodate the average number of boats that anchor there, with very little room for the number of boats that anchor there for the bigger events such as the Forth of July. I feel that the proposed encroachment on the current anchorage will effectively eliminate it.

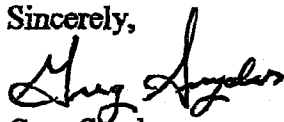
Also, my fear is that the proposed development will end up like National Harbor, which used to be a beautiful anchorage surrounded by trees, and fun not only for anchoring, but walking the waterfront. It will be lost forever to simple greed and the desire to plant yet more condos and unneeded development on the working waterfront.

In conclusion, I am strongly against the development as outlined. As others may have noted, if change must occur, I would recommend reducing and splitting the current 400 foot wide channel into two 100 ft wide channels each placed east and west along the outer banks and docks. Then place a mixed use, mooring field and anchorage, sized for 50 -60 foot boats using the remaining 200 feet in the middle. This would allow visiting traffic and tour boats to have an unconfused traffic pattern and a turning basin just before the 14th street bridge.

Reducing the channel from 400 feet to 200 feet and extending the docks 200 feet into the channel will leave ONLY 50 feet for anchoring or mooring next to the east Potomac Park! That is simply not enough room and is too FAR, FAR too close to shore.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Sincerely,



Greg Snyder

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ZONING COMMISSION  
District of Columbia

CASE NO.

11-03

EXHIBIT NO.

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