

zcsubmissions@dc.gov
Chairman Anthony Hood
District of Columbia Zoning Commission
441 4th Street NW, Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001

January 31, 2015

RE: Case number is 11-07C.

Dear Chairman Hood,

As a DC citizen from the Ft. Gaines neighborhood, I am writing you in support of the American University's request for a minor modification to an approved campus plan further processing application - Zoning Commission Order No. 11-07.

Our neighborhood borders the main university property next to the Katzen Art Center and been an active party to many AU Campus Plan projects over the last 30 to 40 years.

While we have had a history of some disagreement with the University, this particular request truly for a minor modification and not only is not a big deal but an occurrence that happens in construction along this Washington, DC geographical ridge. It is not possible to predict every minor construction problem that may occur because the underground rock formations along the ridge. A five foot adjustment to the depth in one area is trivial.

During the last two AU construction projects in the Ft. Gaines neighborhood, the Katzen Art Center and Nebraska Hall extension, small changes were needed and the changes were handled in a professional manner.

While I do not consider this application a big deal, what is a big deal is the continuing and disappointing polarization occurring in this last Campus Plan process.

A few neighbors from surrounding neighborhoods have taken a negative personal attitude toward the University and the process. It threatens to tear down years of effort to improve the University's attitude toward its neighbors.

Besides a recent despicable physical attack upon a University official, other neighbors have developed childish behaviors because they "just didn't get what they wanted" during Campus Plan discussions, and have decided to disrupt every way they can to delay the East Campus Plan.

Not only is this not healthy, but the hard work of many neighbors that have come before them as neighborhood activist Rosa Sumpter, are in jeopardy.

I urge you and the Commission to approve this University request and focus on more important needs of our city.

Thank you.


Alan Pollock
Ft. Gaines Citizens Association
4428 Sedgwick St. NW
Washington, DC 20016

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