



April 27, 2020

**Meridith Moldenhauer**

Direct Phone 202-747-0767  
Direct Fax 202-683-9389  
mmoldenhauer@cozen.com

Anthony J. Hood, Chairperson  
DC Zoning Commission  
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 200S  
Washington, DC 20010

**Re: Letter in Support for ZC Case No. 20-07 (Extension of Validity Period by 6 Months for Orders Scheduled to Expire between 4/27/20 and 12/31/20)**

Chairperson Hood and Honorable Members of the Commission:

This firm represents the University of the District of Columbia in its 2020 Campus Plan process (“UDC”). UDC supports the text amendment ZC 20-07 to extend the validity period of Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Adjustment orders scheduled to expire between April 27, 2020 and December 31, 2020 (the “Extension ZTA”).

UDC’s 10-year Campus Plan, Order 11-02/11-02A is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2020. The Extension ZTA would extend the validity of Order 11-02/11-02A by six months to June 31, 2021. Late last year our firm was retained by UDC to lead the campus master planning process with the intention of obtaining a new 10-year approval prior to the expiration of the existing campus master plan, originally approved in 2011 under, and set to expire by the end of this calendar year.

Since December 2019, UDC has been actively engaged with stakeholders to prepare the 2020 Campus Plan application. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has introduced a high degree of uncertainty into the University’s timeline due to the fact that community and in-person meetings have been cancelled until at least May 15 – maybe longer. Further, potential economic disruptions that come as a result of the Covid-19 response may affect key near-term budget allocations to UDC, potentially requiring reallocation of funds in the District’s next capital improvement plan (“CIP”). The vision of the 2020 Campus Plan is highly-dependent on these CIP allocations, and UDC is hesitant about pushing forward until budget allocations are clear.

For these reasons and others, UDC supports the proposed Extension ZTA, which will extend the expiration date of UDC’s 2011 Campus Plan - Order 11-02/11-02A – to June 31, 2021.

Thank you, and please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

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Sincerely,

COZEN O'CONNOR



Meridith Moldenhauer

cc via email:

University of the District of Columbia  
c/o Avis Russell, General Counsel  
[avis.russell@udc.edu](mailto:avis.russell@udc.edu)

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3F  
c/o David Dickenson, Chairperson  
[3F@anc.dc.gov](mailto:3F@anc.dc.gov)

Van Ness South Tenants Association  
[vnsta3003@gmail.com](mailto:vnsta3003@gmail.com)

Van Ness North Condominium Association  
[vnncgm@vannessnorth.org](mailto:vnncgm@vannessnorth.org)

Van Ness East Cooperative Association  
[office@vannesseast.com](mailto:office@vannesseast.com)

Forest Hills Citizen Association  
[info@foresthillsconnection.com](mailto:info@foresthillsconnection.com)

Van Ness Main Street  
Gloria M. Garcia, Executive Director  
[gloria@vannessmainstreet.org](mailto:gloria@vannessmainstreet.org)