

# Government of the District of Columbia

## Department of Transportation



### d. Planning and Sustainability Division

#### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District of Columbia Zoning Commission

**FROM:** Meredith Soniat  
Acting Associate Director *MS*

**DATE:** July 9, 2025

**SUBJECT:** ZC Case No. 20-08E – Howard Campus Plan Amendment and Further Processing

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#### APPLICATION

Howard University (the “Applicant”) requests an amendment to and further processing of its approved 2020-2030 Central Campus Plan (“Campus Plan”) for the temporary placement of modular buildings at 2345-2525 Sherman Avenue NW (the “Property”). The Campus Plan was initially approved by the Zoning Commission (ZC) in 2021 through ZC Order No. 20-08 for ten years, amended and modified in Orders 20-08A, 20-08B, and 20-08C.

#### SUMMARY OF DDOT REVIEW

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is committed to achieving an exceptional quality of life by encouraging sustainable travel practices, safer streets, and outstanding access to goods and services. To achieve this vision, DDOT works through the zoning process to ensure that impacts from new developments are manageable within and take advantage of the District’s multi-modal transportation network and, as necessary, propose mitigations that are commensurate with the action. After an extensive review of the case materials submitted by the Applicant, DDOT finds:

- The Campus Plan contemplated that the Property would be developed with apartment-style student housing, and that long-term use will remain unchanged;
- The amendment to the Campus Plan is to permit a temporary, interim use on the Property of prefabricated modular units to house classrooms, labs and University offices while emergency repairs and planned renovations are being made to other buildings on campus; and
- The proposed installation of the new modular units will reduce the existing parking on the Property by approximately 50 spaces, which will be accommodated elsewhere on the campus; and
- No vehicular access changes are proposed at the Property.

## RECOMMENDATION

DDOT has no objection to the approval of this Campus Plan amendment.

## STREETSCAPE AND PUBLIC REALM

DDOT's lack of objection to this application should not be viewed as an approval of the public realm design. If any future elements of the project are proposed within District-owned right-of-way, the Applicant will be required to pursue a public space construction permit.

The following public space comments should be addressed during the public space permitting process:

- All vehicular site access to the site, as well as loading facilities and trash pick-up, must be via the existing curb cuts; and
- Ensure all temporary building or fence entrances have doors that do not swing outward into public space.

DDOT expects the adjacent public realm to meet all District standards. The Applicant should refer to Titles 11, 12A, and 24 of the [DCMR](#), the most recent version of DDOT's [Design and Engineering Manual](#), and the [Public Realm Design Manual](#) for public space regulations and design guidance. A permit application can be filed through the DDOT [Transportation Online Permitting System](#) (TOPS) website.

## HERITAGE AND SPECIAL TREES

According to the District's [Tree Size Estimator map](#), there are no Heritage or Special Trees within the construction disturbance area.

MS:eo