

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District of Columbia Zoning Commission

**FROM:** Crystal Myers, Development Review Specialist  
*JL for* Radhika Mohan, Deputy Director, Development, Design and Preservation

**DATE:** January 9, 2026

**SUBJECT:** **OP Report** –Request for a Modification without Hearing to Johns Hopkins University’s Campus Plan, ZC 25-19

---

**I. BACKGROUND**

The Applicant, Johns Hopkins University, relocated its Washington DC programs from its Dupont Circle properties to 555 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. In accordance with an agreement with the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED), the University is selling its former Dupont Circle properties at 1740 Massachusetts Ave. NW, 1619 Massachusetts Ave. NW, and at the subject property. The subject property, 1717 Massachusetts Avenue NW, was approved for college/university use under BZA Case No. 16526. The approval included three conditions.

**II. RECOMMENDATION**

The Applicant requests a modification without hearing to the university use at 1717 Massachusetts Ave NW, which was approved in BZA 16526. The request is for removing the first condition in the final order, which is considered a modification per Z § 703.6.

OP has no objection to this request being considered a modification without a hearing and recommends **approval**.

**III. MODIFICATION REQUEST**

The Applicant is requesting to remove condition # 1 so that a college or university occupying the building is not restricted in the type of classes and programs they want to operate.

Condition 1

**The programs offered are primarily evening and weekend graduate courses, not day courses**

**IV. ANALYSIS**

**Z§ 703- Modifications without Hearings**

**703 CONSENT CALENDAR – TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO ADOPTED RULES AND MODIFICATIONS WITHOUT HEARINGS TO CONTESTED CASE ORDERS AND PLANS**

...

703.6 *For the purposes of this section, a “modification without hearing” is a modification in which impact may be understood without witness testimony, including, but not limited to a proposed **change to a condition in the final order**, a change in position on an issue discussed by the Commission that affected its decision, or a redesign or relocation of architectural elements and open spaces from the final design approved by the Commission. Determination that a modification can be approved without witness testimony is within the Commission’s discretion. A request to add or change a zoning map designation to an approved planned unit development shall not be considered without a hearing.*

The Applicant is requesting to remove a condition in their final order so that it would be easier for them to sell the property to another college or university. Other schools have shown an interest in the property but have expressed concern over the restrictions in Condition 1. This condition prevents non-graduate classes from being held in the building and it does not allow classes to occur during weekday daytime hours.

Removing the condition should not result in the property having significant negative impacts on this neighborhood. This is a high-density mixed-use neighborhood and has had buildings with college/university uses in it for a long time. Until recently, in this neighborhood Johns Hopkins operated academic programs at 1619 Massachusetts Ave. NW and 1740 Massachusetts Ave. NW without similar restrictions. Today 1619 Massachusetts Ave NW is owned by Indiana University and being used for their own DC academic programs without similar restrictions.

**V. AGENCY COMMENTS**

Currently, there are no reports in the record from other agencies.

**VI. ANC COMMENTS**

Currently, there is no report in the record from ANC 2B in the record.

**VII. ANC COMMENTS**

Currently, there are no comments from community members.