

Sophia Kenward
2222 I Street NW Room 215
Washington, D.C. 20052

November 6th, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Dear Mr. Chairman,

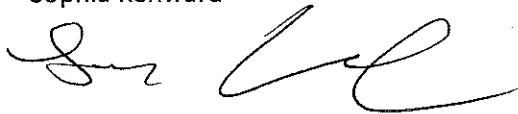
My name is Sophia Kenward and I am a sophomore at the George Washington University studying Political Science. I am writing to urge you to support the upcoming renovation of Thurston Hall, a freshman dorm hall at GW.

Last year, I was assigned to live in Thurston Hall. While I enjoyed my time there, I have no doubts that the hall would benefit from a renovation, which I believe is long overdue. The new renovation would focus on improving student life and would support increased engagement and academic success. I hope you can agree that this project will positively impact both the students and the community in our neighborhood.

Please consider supporting the renovation of Thurston Hall. Thank you so much for your consideration and commitment to D.C.

Sincerely,

Sophia Kenward

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sophia Kenward', written in a cursive style.

Genevieve Cifelli
1810 Key Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201

November 16, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 0611Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Dear Zoning Commission,

My name is Genevieve Cifelli and I'm a George Washington University graduate, Class of 2019. During my four years at GW, Thurston Hall played a key role in my life as a student, student-employee, and campus organizer. This is why I write to you in support of the proposed Thurston Hall renovation.

In my experience, Thurston Hall has been more than just a living space. It's a place of campus community, one that often felt hard to come by as a first-year student in an unknown city. It is a place where student organizations find new members with shared interests, where friends meet before attending study sessions, GW basketball games, political protests, and even presidential inaugurations.

However, it has long been a hope of students and alumni like myself that Thurston be renovated. The building and the structures within it are old--while GW's student body has changed, the building has stayed the same. By the time I was a first-year student, it was clear Thurston was not suited to the needs of the university.

The renovations to Thurston Hall would be a great asset for the university and the District of Columbia. The promised sustainable architecture would be an asset to the Earth, as well. Proposed renovations, such as study and dining areas, would give students much more community-focused space on campus. Overall, I believe it would improve quality of life not only for GW students, but Foggy Bottom residents at large.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to D.C. I believe the proposed renovations to Thurston Hall will make the dorm even more of a point of pride for the university and all those within the community. I'm proud to be an alumna of GW and I can only hope the university continues its commitment to student experience and is supported in doing so.

In gratitude,

Genevieve Cifelli

Genevieve Cifelli

Colin Medwick
2121 H Street NW #341
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street NW, Suite 201 South

Zoning Commission,

My name is Colin Medwick, and I am a junior studying Business Administration at GWU. I spent my freshman year living in Thurston Hall, and I have many fond memories of the building. It serves as an essential hub for freshmen to get to know each other, adjust to urban living, and make lifelong friends.

With that being said, the building is certainly due for a renovation. The building's proposed common spaces, dining area, and biophilic design will be a big win for students. As a student who is also interested in sustainability, I am excited about the potential of a new, renovated building having updated features to lessen GW's impact on the planet and our city.

In conclusion, Thurston Hall's renovation will improve campus life for a number of reasons. As a student who lived there and has been heavily involved in student life throughout my tenure at GW thus far, I wholeheartedly endorse the proposed renovation. I thank you for your time and dedication to DC, and I look forward to hearing the commission's decision!

Best,



Colin Medwick

Glenn Stanton
2121 H Street NW #927
Washington, DC 20052

November 12, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street NW, Suite 201 South

Zoning Commission,

My name is Glenn Stanton, and I am a sophomore studying International Relations and Russian at GWU. I spent many days of my freshman year in Thurston Hall, and I have many fond memories of the building. It serves as a space for first-year students to get to know each other, build lifelong connections, and feel at home while studying in a new and unfamiliar environment.

With that being said, the building is certainly due for a renovation. The building's proposed common spaces, dining area, and environmentally-conscious design will be a big win for students. As a student who is also committed to sustainability, I am excited about the potential of a new Thurston Hall that will lessen GW's impact on the planet and our city.

In conclusion, Thurston Hall's renovation will improve campus life for a number of reasons. As a student who spent significant time there and who has been heavily involved in student life throughout my tenure at GW thus far, I wholeheartedly endorse the proposed renovation. I thank you for your time and dedication to the District of Columbia, and I look forward to hearing the commission's decision!

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Stanton", written in a cursive style.

Glenn Stanton

Brynn Smith
2350 H St NW,
Washington, DC 20052

November 19, 2019

Brynn Smith
2350 H St NW,
Washington, DC 20052

My name is Brynn Smith and I am writing to regarding the upcoming Thurston Renovation. I am a sophomore in the Elliot School of International Affairs double majoring in International Affairs and French and have a strong passion for my concentration which is Conflict Resolution. I spent my freshman year living in a 4 person room in Thurston Hall here at the George Washington University. By choosing to live in Thurston I got to live through a true freshman experience, meeting new freshmen everyday who were also adapting to college life. Through my time in Thurston I gained some of my closest friends here at school and am thankful I got to live there. However, the building of Thurston itself is outdated and overcrowded. The new renovation will help freshmen feel more comfortable as they transition into college life. I feel Thurston could use larger rooms consisting of mostly 2 and 4 person suites, having 6 people in a single room can be a little too much and I know certain freshman will be happy to have more privacy. Thank you so much for your time and your interest in this matter. Again, Thurston means a lot to me but improvements can certainly be made to benefit the countless number of freshman who will live in it just like I did for years to come.

Best regards,
Brynn Smith

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brynn Smith', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Katherine Scott

2201 Virginia Ave NW
Washington, DC 20052

6th November 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission

Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th St NW, Suite 201 South
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Chair Hood and Leaders of the Zoning Commission,

My name is Katherine Scott, and I am a sophomore International Affairs student at the George Washington University. I lived in Thurston Hall my freshman year and had many good memories there. That being said, I'm very excited to see it be renovated, as there are many improvements to be made.

I am currently minoring in Sustainability and concentrating in International Environmental Studies, so making the renovated Thurston as environmentally friendly as possible is of utmost concern to me. I am very excited at the prospect of green space in the Thurston atrium. I also think that it will be very important for Thurston to run off of clean energy and to have composting receptacles be available on every floor.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. I, and all of the students of George Washington University are grateful to you for your commitment to sustainability and our future. I am hopeful that you will approve this project, and I am eager to hear about your decision.

Best Regards,

Katherine Scott

Swetha Ramesh
2135 F St NW
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Chair Hood & Members of the Zoning Commission,

I am currently a senior undergraduate student at The George Washington University studying Organizational Sciences. Thurston Hall has been a large part of my GW experience, and a renovation would greatly benefit the GWU and Foggy Bottom community. A new Thurston would provide students with a better first year student experience and provide a better sense of community within the university.

What I hope to see from the new Thurston is more natural light in the hallways and rooms to make it a more liveable space that feels welcoming and open. I would also love to see designated study spaces and community spaces on each floor, not just one for the entire building. This would foster interaction between students on each floor and would be a more intimate setting that allows people to get to know one another better.

I really hope that you will recognize the importance of these renovations in cultivating the GW student experience. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and thank you for the effort you put into improving DC as a whole on a daily basis. I look forward to hearing your decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Swetha Ramesh', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Katherine Turkiewicz
2201 Virginia Ave NW Rm 702
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Chair Hood & Members of the Zoning Commission,

I am currently a sophomore at George Washington University studying economics. I'm originally from Folsom, California, so moving to the East Coast for college was a huge change for me. Thurston Hall, as it is for the majority of freshmen at GW, was my first new home away from home. It was where I lived with my 3 other roommates, who have now become my best friends.

To me, Thurston represents friendship and good memories, and I will always look back on my time living there fondly. This is why it excites me that GW has plans to renovate it, as it gives the university the chance to design a building that will foster an even greater sense of community. What I hope to see from the new Thurston is more natural light in the hallways and rooms to make it a more liveable space that feels welcoming and open. I would also love to see designated study spaces and community spaces on each floor, not just one for the entire building. This would foster interaction between students on each floor and would be a more intimate setting that allows people to get to know one another better.

I really hope that you will recognize the importance of these renovations in cultivating the GW student experience. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and thank you for the effort you put into improving D.C. as a whole on a daily basis. I look forward to hearing your decision!

Sincerely,

Katherine Turkiewicz

Emily Kunasek
2135 F St NW
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

Cole Christian
2201 Virginia Ave NW
Washington, DC 20052

Hi Cole!

My name is Emily Kunasek, and I am a Sophomore in the Elliott School of International Affairs at GW. I lived in Thurston my freshman year, and I'm so glad that I did. I was lucky enough to meet some pretty amazing friends on my floor, including my roommates. Thurston is always crazy, but it can also be very homey if you let it. The new renovation plans look amazing. I would love to see plenty of community/study spaces, as the basement of Thurston last year was not a great place to convene. Having a good range in room sizes is important too. I really liked how Thurston had options for anywhere from 2-6 people to live together, because everyone has different ideal living arrangements.

Thanks for your time and your efforts to make the freshman experience great!

Best,
Emily Kunasek

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Kunasek". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Grace Schultz
616 23rd St., NW
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201 South

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Hello, my name is Grace Schultz and I am a sophomore at the George Washington University majoring in Archaeology. I am writing to you to voice my support for the proposed renovation for Thurston Hall on campus. I lived in Thurston Hall my freshman year, and am therefore connected to the building. I would love to see the building improved so that the student experience in the years to come will be elevated for new students.

Thurston Hall is an important building for the student experience on campus, but it is in need of upgrading so that the experience of first years can be elevated. The lowering of the student population in the building to 825 persons will help facilitate relationships between students and help form a tighter community in the building. The addition of a roof-top canopy, student lounge, and spaces with natural light will improve a student's mood and also increase productivity. The overall renovation of Thurston Hall will only improve the student experience as it will become a place where students will want to spend their time and form ties and new memories with others.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to DC. I believe that the renovation of Thurston Hall will only improve the student experience through a lowered amount of residents and an increased student experience. I hope you improve the project and look forward to hearing your decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grace Schultz", with a stylized, flowing script.

Grace Schultz

Alexandra Teerlinck
616 23rd St. NW #423
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201 South

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E and 06-11R

Chairman Hood,

My name is Alexandra Teerlinck and I am a sophomore at The George Washington University. I'm studying history with a minor in political science and I'm also involved with Campaign GW, which is the on-campus sustainability/development student organization. I'm writing to you to voice my support for the proposed Thurston Hall renovation on campus.

As a student who lived in Thurston last year, I saw firsthand the problems with Thurston in terms of building features and housing conditions. I think that this renovation will be very important in building a sense of community among the new first year students at GW, from the dining area to the multi-purpose spaces and penthouse gathering space. The plans for natural light throughout the building would also be very beneficial to students; natural light often has a significant influence on mood and overall well being, which is extremely important for first year college students.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to D.C.. I know that many other students on the GW campus are also passionate about the proposed Thurston renovation and giving first year students the best experience as possible. I hope that you will approve this renovation project and I look forward to hearing your decision.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexandra Teerlinck', written in a cursive style.

Alexandra Teerlinck

Chairman Anthony Hood
2135 F Street, NW Room 411 South

November 11, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
2135 F Street, NW Room 411 South

Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Chairman Hood,

Hello, my name is Nina Garcia and I am a senior at The George Washington University studying Biological Anthropology and Public Health. I am writing this to letter to support Thurston Hall's Renovation for this coming fall. I was a resident there as a first year and it was a hallmark of my college experience. While living there, I enjoyed meeting new people, navigating the city with my quad-mates, and being so close to the White House.

Completing this renovation would drastically increase the student experience. Having a sustainable and upgraded dorm severely enhances your introduction to college. The renovation plan includes common spaces that will promote living-learning spaces, which is integral in building community here at GW.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to DC. In summation, Thurston has been a beacon on our campus for decades. I hope you will support this project and I look forward to hearing your decision.

Sincerely,
Nina Garcia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nina Garcia', written in a cursive style.

Sam Gomulkiewicz
2115 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

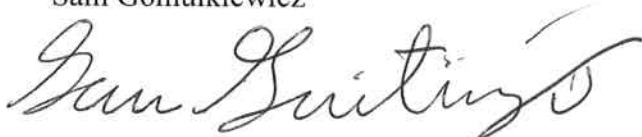
Dear Chair Hood & Members of the Zoning Commission,

My name is Sam Gomulkiewicz and I am a second year student at George Washington University majoring in Political Science and Environmental Studies. I am writing to express my support for the proposed renovations to Thurston Hall set to begin during the summer of 2020, and discuss how many former residence in Thurston has informed my support of the renovation.

Living in Thurston Hall is a memorable experience for first year students and the history and mystique of the 91-year old building has created a shared culture across generations of GW students. While a memorable experience, living in Thurston came with its difficulties. Lack of personal kitchens, a dining hall, and the inadequate communal cooking area space created difficulties both managing finances and eating healthily. The difficulty for many students to cook their own food in Thurston disincentivized meal-prepping and affordable options for students, especially those with food insecurity. Furthermore, the amount of students living in the hall created issues with cooking, but also with community engagement. The lack of many open communal areas inside the building coupled with the large student population contributed to the dysfunction of community in the building. Thurston has many spaces that are not being used but with the proper modification could become destination spots for groups of students looking to study or socialize and welcoming spaces outside of rooms for residents.

I appreciate both the Chair and Board's time and consideration towards this matter and their commitment to the District of Columbia. Thurston Hall is a staple of the GWU experience and the necessity of improvements and renovations has never been greater. The difficulties students have faced with communal facilities, spaces, and cooking in Thurston point to the need of renovations. I hope the Board will approve the project and I look forward to hearing your decision.

Sincerely
Sam Gomulkiewicz



Nina Clark
1124 H St NW
District House, Rm 1124
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Chair Hood & Members of the Zoning Commission,

My name is Nina Clark and I am a sophomore at George Washington University. I am writing in the hopes that you will approve the Thurston Hall Renovation project. Many of my friends lived in Thurston my first year at GW. I believe the renovation's focus on community spaces and the inclusion of a dining hall would add greatly to the experience of first year students at GW. As a resident advisor, an issue that has arisen for me with our buildings is the lack of common space, making socialization, a vital part of integration to the the community freshman year, incredibly difficult. Additionally, first year residence halls do not have kitchens and the majority of the food options are incredibly expensive, leading to food insecurity on our campus. The new plan includes an in-building dining hall that would mitigate the level of food insecurity on campus.

It is for these reasons I urge you to approve the project and look forward to hearing your decision.

Sincerely,

Nina Clark

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nina Clark", written in a cursive style.

Nikki Joe
2350 H St NW
Washington, DC 20052

November 10, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E, & 06-11R

Zoning Commission,


My name is Nikki Joe and I am a sophomore studying Economics at the George Washington University. I am writing in hopes that you will support of the proposed renovation of Thurston Hall. Though I myself did not live in Thurston Hall, the majority of the freshman class did and I spent quite a lot of my time there. I believe the inclusion of a dining hall and a greater community spaces will be conducive to a more affordable lifestyle for students and a much easier transition for first year students into their freshman year. Thurston's floors do not currently support community building and GW's food options (Sweet Green, Whole Foods, Beef Steak etc) are too expensive to be the only option for college students.

I believe the renovation of Thurston and inclusion of a dining hall will improve the wellbeing of all GW students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

All the best,

Nikki Joe



Vanessa Pierce
616 23rd Street NW
Washington D.C., 20052

November 8, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11

Dear Mr. Chairman,

My name is Vanessa Pierce and I am a third-year student at the George Washington University, studying public health and political science. I am passionate about health and improving the standard of living in Washington D.C., and pursue this interest through volunteering around the city. Even at a distinguished university, the standard of living is drastically different among students. In Thurston Hall, specifically, first year students are forced to live in mold-infested and cramped rooms.

I lived in Thurston Hall my freshman year, and suffered from mold growing in a variety of places around the dorm room. While living in these conditions, my counterparts lived in newly renovated, healthy environments. This residence hall desperately needs improved to change student life at GWU.

Thank you for your time and commitment to DC. I hope to see that this issue is addressed and that future students see an upgrade in their standard of living.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Pierce

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'VP' with a flourish underneath.

Anna Gallicchio
Winston House Apt. 307
2140 L Street NW
Washington, DC 20037

November 9th, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Hood
441 4th Street NW Suite 201 South
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I write to you and the council in complete support of the upcoming Thurston Hall Renovation project. As a senior at the George Washington University, Thurston Hall has needed renovation my entire time at the school. The reduction in residence within the building will benefit the greater Foggy Bottom community. As I currently live off-campus, I understand residents concerns with noise and large quantities of college students living in one place. By reducing the number of occupants in Thurston Hall, the experience of these students will improve, but the experience of Foggy Bottom residence will also improve in the long run. These benefits will far outweigh the temporary costs of displacement of students into other buildings within Foggy Bottom and West End.

The renovation is important to me not only as a resident of the Foggy Bottom community, but also as a student of sustainable development. I am a senior studying Economics and International Affairs, with a minor in Sustainability. Through classes at the George Washington University I have learned how economics, environment and social components all play a role in developing sustainably. By updating the building, it will be more energy efficient, student and neighborhood health will improve, and it will be a more accessible building.

For these reasons I am in support of the renovation of Thurston Hall, and look forward to seeing the progression of this project from illustrations to reality.

Sincerely,

Anna Gallicchio
International Affairs and Economics, Class of 2020
The George Washington University
annagallicchio@gwu.edu

Anna Gallicchio

Kaile Prosser

2350 H St. NW

Washington D.C. 20052

Thursday, November 7, 2019

Dear Mr. Chairman,

My name is Kaile Prosser, I am a current sophomore at GW double majoring in History and Political Science. I am writing you with regards to CampaignGW and their support for the renovation of Thurston Hall in 2020. This plan is vital to the first year living experience at GW, which is arguably the most important year of a college students life. Being from California, throwing myself into the bustling life that is GW was quite a shock. It was imperative that my "home" environment was comfortable and nice, in order to provide a safe space for me in times of homesickness, etc. With Thurston being home to so many first years, making it both nicer and more community oriented will surely improve the wellbeing and overall attitude of Freshman year for these incoming students. I urge the school to follow through with this renovation to the fullest extent, and ask that focus be placed on maintaining sustainable and environmentally friendly building styles, and construction techniques. Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,

Kaile Prosser

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kaile Prosser". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jacqueline LaBruzzo
190 F St., NW Thurston #328
Washington, DC 20052

November 7th, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Dear sir,

I am Jacqueline LaBruzzo, a first-year student at The George Washington University in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences. I am majoring in History and double minoring in Naval Science and Creative Writing, as well as being rolled in Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC). As a current resident of Thurston Hall, I believe I may be able to offer reasoning as to why it is in good interests to remodel the residence hall.

Thurston Hall is full of "character", as it has been described for nigh on 30 years. On move-in day in August, I recall hearing a GWU alumni say to that he had lived in Thurston in 1980, and that it had not changed one bit. Though this is charming, it also puts forth the issues surrounding the hall: frequent heating/cooling system issues, problems with mold and mildew, and reoccurring electricity issues. As a result, the students that live here, myself included, are faced with certain challenges on the daily that make their new home in Washington D.C. uncomfortable, especially as for most, it is their first time living in and adjusting to the city. This makes it difficult for first years to find a "home space" to unwind in after a day of school.

Thurston Hall has its many great moments, as it has had over the decades, but it seems as though its character and charm no longer outweighs the numerous issues faced by its residents. I would like to thank you for your time in reading my letter. I sincerely hope that this project will be approved, and I look forward to hearing the decision.

Very respectfully,

Jacqueline V. LaBruzzo

Jacqueline LaBruzzo
MIDN 4/C, USNR
The George Washington University
History, Class of 2023
jlabruzzo86@gwmail.gwu.edu





Zoë Grimaldi
600 H Street NE, Apt 321
Washington, DC 20002

November 15, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Hello Chair Hood & Members of the Zoning Commission,

My name is Zoë Grimaldi and I am an alumna and former employee of the George Washington University. I am asking you to approve the Thurston Hall Renovation project as I know how important this renovation will be to our students and the Foggy Bottom community. As someone who has lived in Thurston twice, first during my first year at GW and then as a Resident Advisor, I know how these improvements could dramatically improve lives. I can attest to the difficulty of making new friends, sticking to a budget and meal plan without access to common spaces and a kitchen in your first year of university. As a former Resident Advisor for freshmen, I saw how often undergrads wanted to gather but would not find space without leaving campus or waiting days to reserve a room. I would strongly encourage you to approve this project to help our younger students find and build community. This renovation would create the various common areas that I know undergrads would use to create a sense of community. Most first year residence halls do not have individual kitchens and most of the food options near campus are expensive and calorie-heavy, forcing many students to make difficult financial and health choices. Adding a community kitchen and more affordable dining options in Thurston would help students manage their wallets and health decisions while also benefitting the neighborhood. Non-student residents and professionals working nearby would also benefit from these dining spaces. The new plan would also ensure another building achieves LEED certification, reducing our city's carbon footprint and helping combat climate change.

I strongly urge you to approve the project for these reasons and await your decision.

Sincerely,

Zoë Grimaldi

Zoë Grimaldi

Lexington Zografakis
2350 H St NW
Washington, DC 20052

November 10, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E, & 06-11R

Commissioner Hood,

I am writing to you in hopes that you will support the new renovation of Thurston Hall. As a student with a passion for sustainability I am incredibly excited about the changes being made. With the inclusion of natural lighting and other green features GW will be able to conserve large amounts of energy and reduce its carbon footprint. This change is vital to our schools dedication to sustainability.

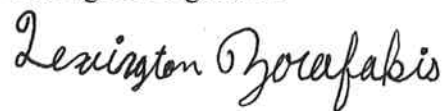
I also am excited about the idea of a dining hall on campus. Every year, I run out of money on my meal plan because the food options provided are very pricey. Having a dining hall on campus will help me save cost and continue to eat a sustainable amount.

I urge you to approve this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

All the best,

Lexington Zografakis

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lexington Zografakis".

Amy Patronella
736 22nd St. NW
Madison Hall, Rm 805
Washington, DC 20052

November 7, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood

441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Chair Hood & Members of the Zoning Commission,

My name is Amy Patronella and I am a Junior at George Washington University. I am writing in the hopes that you will approve the Thurston Hall Renovation project. I lived in Thurston my first year at GW, and am also serving in my second year as a resident advisor, working specifically with first-year populations. It is my opinion that the renovation, specifically an in-building dining hall and the array of different common areas will provide incoming students with the necessary foundation to grow and learn at GW. As a resident advisor, one of my biggest qualms with our buildings is the lack of common space in our communities, which makes it difficult for residents to socialize and interact with their neighbors. Additionally, food insecurity is a major issue on our campus, given that we lack a dining hall on the Foggy Bottom campus. Currently, Thurston houses more than 1,000 students and has only one kitchen. This means residents have limited opportunity to cook their own meals and instead turn to expensive, ready-made options such as Sweetgreen, Roti, or Whole Foods. The new plan includes an in-building dining hall that would mitigate the level of food insecurity on campus.

Thank you for your time, consideration and commitment to DC. Again, I hope you will approve the project and look forward to hearing your decision.

Sincerely,

Amy Patronella



Colin O'Brien
1280 21st Street, NW, #104
Washington, DC, 20036

November 21, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201 South

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q, 06-12Q, 01-17E, & 06-11R

Chairman Hood,

I am a fourth-year undergraduate student at the George Washington, graduating this Spring with a degree in international affairs. In my four years in Foggy Bottom, I have seen both the campus and the surrounding community undergo many infrastructural changes, with demolitions, renovations and new construction happening all throughout the neighborhood. As a student, I have already benefited from progress that already occurred, such as the construction of District House which has provided more on campus housing for our student body, and a hub for social life and dining. As I plan to remain in Washington for years to come, I will benefit in the near future from the completion of ongoing projects such as the modern, 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue building with its valuable additions to the retail experience and streetscape along I Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support the proposed renovations of Thurston Hall that The George Washington University has submitted. This building is the heart of the first year experience for all students at GW, whether they reside in the building or not. The proposed renovations, if supported by the Zoning Commission, would provide optimal conditions for living, learning, socializing and growing, and bring Thurston Hall up to the standards of our other residence halls. At 91 years old, our beloved and nearly centenarian residence hall is due for a makeover, and our future students are more than deserving of its many proposed amenities. While these renovations are occurring, I can assure you that those students who are temporarily housed off campus and throughout the Foggy Bottom community will be respectful and responsible guests of the neighborhood and its many long-term residents. I thank you for your time and consideration of my statement and sincerely hope that the Zoning Commission will move to support the proposed renovations.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin O'Brien". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Colin" and last name "O'Brien" clearly distinguishable.

Colin O'Brien

Rachel Freed
2201 Virginia Ave NW
Washington, DC 20052

November 11, 2019

Rachel Freed
2201 Virginia Ave NW
Washington, DC 20052

Dear members of the zoning commission,

My name is Rachel Freed and I am a current sophomore at GW. I lived in Thurston Hall last year with three other girls. Living in Thurston was an incredibly important part of my college experience, but there were a few additions to the building that I believe would make a real difference in the students' lives. In the new plans for the building, a roof-top canopy is featured for students. I think this will be a great addition to the building and I would also recommend including plants wherever possible. Thurston lacked any greenery and I believe that placing plants in common spaces, especially places like the atrium, would be a great way to boost students' moods and create a calm study environment. Thank you for your time and your commitment to making this new building the best that it can be. I hope that you prioritize creating green spaces in the new Thurston Hall.

Sincerely,
Rachel Freed

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel Freed".

Cole Christian
2201 Virginia Ave NW,
Washington, DC 20052

November 19, 2019

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Attn: Chairman Anthony Hood
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 201S

Re: Zoning Commission Case Number 06-11Q,06-12Q, 01-17E & 06-11R

Chairman,

I am a sophomore in the Elliott School of International Affairs concentrating in international development and minoring in Spanish. Last year, I lived in a tight Thurston quad, so many of my freshman memories are from that building. I'm so grateful to have met friends there and shared experiences with other GW freshman. However, I did not spend too much time there because there is not a lot of communal space, study space or natural light. To do work and socialize, I often preferred leaving that dorm. I think Thurston would be greatly improved by bigger living spaces, more community rooms and windows for more sunlight. It is crucial that freshman have places to talk and meet new people as it can be lonely leaving home and being immersed in a completely new environment.

In addition, I currently intern for a sustainable organization on campus, so the environmental aspect of the renovation is really important to me. I think it is critical to have easily accessible water bottle filling stations, and compost and recycle bins. There should be good insulation, and led lights to conserve electricity. Lastly, this building should be made in a thoughtful manner so that the material used will last.

In conclusion, Thurston is a space that should feel like home to freshman and give them a safe place to relax. It should also include spaces where they can do work and socialize. Most importantly, the environmental sustainability should be highly considered in this project as it is important to students and the Earth. Thank you for your time, consideration and commitment to DC.

Best regards,
Cole Christian

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cole Christian", written in a cursive style.