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GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Zoning Commission

Public Hearing

Case No. 15-06 (Harvard University's Center for
Hellenic Studies 2015-2025 Campus Plan at Square
2155)

6:30 p.m. to 6:37 p.m.

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Jerrily R. Kress Memorial Hearing Room
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 220 South
Washington, D.C. 20001

1 Board Members:

2 ANTHONY HOOD, Chairperson

3 MARCIE COHEN, Vice-Chairperson

4 ROBERT MILLER, Commissioner

5 PETER MAY, Commissioner

6 MR. TURNBULL, Commissioner

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8 Office of Zoning:

9 SHARON SCHELLIN, Secretary

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11 Office of Planning:

12 JENNIFER STEINGASSER

13 STEPHEN GYOR

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Good evening, ladies
3 and gentlemen, this is the public hearing of the
4 Zoning Commission for the District of Columbia.
5 Today's date is June the 18th, 2015.

6 My name is Anthony Hood. Joining me are
7 Vice Chair Cohen, Commissioner Miller, May, and
8 Turnbull. We're also joined by the Office of
9 Zoning staff, Ms. Sharon Schellin, the Office of
10 Planning staff, Ms. Steingasser and Mr. Gyor.

11 The proceeding is being recorded by a
12 court reporter, it's also webcast live.
13 Accordingly we must ask you to refrain from any
14 disruptive noise or action in the hearing room.

15 Notice of today's hearing was published
16 in the D.C. Register and copies of that
17 announcement are available on the wall near the
18 door.

19 The hearing will be conducted in
20 accordance with provisions of 11-DCMR-3117 as
21 follows. We will have preliminary matters,
22 applicant's case, report of the Office of
23 Planning, report of other government agencies,
24 notice of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission,
25 organizations and persons in support,

1 organizations and persons in opposition, rebuttal
2 and closing by the applicant.

3 The following time constraints will be
4 maintained in this meeting. The applicant has up
5 to 60 minutes but I believe we'll be able to stand
6 on the record. I think the record is complete.
7 We may have a few questions up here.
8 Organizations five minutes, individuals three
9 minutes.

10 All persons appearing before the
11 Commission are to fill out two witness cards.
12 These cards are located on the left on the table
13 near the door. Please turn off all beepers and
14 cell phones at this time so not to disrupt these
15 proceedings. The staff will be available
16 throughout the hearing to discuss procedural
17 questions.

18 Would all individuals wishing to testify
19 please rise to take the oath? Ms. Schellin, would
20 you please administer the oath?

21 MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Please raise your
22 right hand.

23 [Oath administered to the participants.]

24 MS. SCHELLIN: Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: At this time the

1 Commission will consider any preliminary matters.
2 Ms. Schellin, do you have any preliminary matters?

3 MS. SCHELLIN: The architect is being
4 proffered as an expert, so if the Commission would
5 take that up?

6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay, Commissioners.
7 And I believe that's under 17D. Any objections?

8 Okay. So we will have him as an expert.
9 Anything else?

10 MS. SCHELLIN: No, sir.

11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Mr. Hughes, I
12 may have spoke too soon. I asked you to stand on
13 the record but I have to give you that option to
14 do that, so you have to -- if you have a
15 presentation you want to give you can go ahead,
16 but -- the mic is off? Maybe I don't want to hear
17 from you. No, I'm just playing. Okay.

18 MR. HUGHES: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair,
19 we'll be pleased to stand on the record.

20 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Colleagues --

21 MR. HUGHES: And answer any questions.

22 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Great. Okay,
23 colleagues, any questions up here about any of the
24 merits of this case? Commissioner May?

25 MR. MAY: I just have one question. The

1 only thing that I could find in the whole record
2 was that DDOT was asking for a couple of bike
3 racks, and are you willing to do that?

4 MR. HUGHES: Yes, we are and they have
5 been ordered.

6 MR. MAY: Okay.

7 MR. HUGHES: And they will be located --
8 we're still determining where they'd be located
9 but we --

10 MR. MAY: All right.

11 MR. HUGHES: As close to where the DDOT
12 has recommended as we can get them.

13 MR. MAY: All right. Thanks.

14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Any other
15 questions up here?

16 Okay. I don't see anyone from ANC, I
17 think it's 2-C. 2-E. I'm sorry, yeah, 2-E. I
18 don't see anyone present.

19 Let's go to the Office of Planning, Mr.
20 Gyor.

21 MR. GYOR: Good evening, Mr. Chairman and
22 Members of the Commission. The Office of Planning
23 supports the applicant's campus plan and rests on
24 the record. Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you. Do

1 we have any, Commissioners, any questions of the
2 Office of Planning?

3 Okay. Not hearing any, we do have a
4 report from the District Department of
5 Transportation. Do we have any other government
6 reports that I may have missed?

7 Okay. If not we do have an ANC, which is
8 Exhibit 15, and this is in support. Mr. Ron Lewis
9 is the Chair of ANC 2-E and they have -- a vote
10 was -- anyway, I believe the vote was unanimous,
11 but anyway. Yeah, the vote was unanimous, I just
12 don't see it right off.

13 Do we have any organizations and persons
14 who are here in support? Any organizations or
15 persons who are here in opposition?

16 Mr. Hughes, you don't have anything to
17 rebut. You can go ahead and give us a closing if
18 you want to.

19 MR. HUGHES: Mr. Chair, I was remiss in
20 not indicating appreciating for the Office of
21 Planning's thorough report and appreciate their
22 support. And even though Mr. Booker is not here,
23 the same for his work and Mr. Westrom's work. And
24 we believe as you've, I think, noted before that
25 the record is complete and we would appreciate the

1 Commission's approval of the campus plan.

2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
3 Hughes.

4 Commissioners, anybody who would like to
5 make a motion? I think this is pretty straight
6 forward. Vice Chair Cohen?

7 MS. COHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
8 move to approve Case No. 15-06, Harvard University
9 Center for Hellenic studies, 2015-2025 Campus
10 Plan, and ask for a second.

11 MR. MILLER: Second.

12 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. It's been moved
13 and properly seconded. Any further discussion?

14 [Vote taken.]

15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Not hearing any
16 opposition, Ms. Schellin, would you record the
17 vote?

18 MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir. Staff records
19 the vote five to zero to zero to approve final
20 action in Zoning Commission Case No. 15-06,
21 Commissioner Cohen moving, Commissioner Miller
22 seconding, Commissioners Hood, May, and Turnbull
23 in support.

24 I take it a summary order is okay?

25 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Actually, due to --

1 was that to the Zoning Commission. The last
2 training I had -- I do pay attention. I
3 understand summary orders on -- didn't we hear
4 summary orders don't do no good?

5 MS. COHEN: Yeah.

6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Isn't that what we
7 heard?

8 MS. COHEN: Yeah, they --

9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah. Summary orders
10 are no good.

11 MS. SCHELLIN: That's what they prefer, I
12 think, now.

13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Didn't somebody tell
14 us summary orders don't do us no good?

15 MS. SCHELLIN: Yeah.

16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: This is getting ready
17 to be longer than the case.

18 MR. MAY: Yeah. I mean, I think there
19 are circumstances where summary orders are
20 problematic, but I don't believe that this is one
21 of those circumstances. I think the idea is that
22 there are certain ones where it's very clear --
23 hard for the Zoning Administrator to interpret
24 what's been said when there is a summary order. I
25 don't think it's --

1 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Yeah, I think -
2 -

3 MS. COHEN: Conditions. With the
4 conditions I think that's the issue.

5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you. Thank you
6 for that.

7 MS. COHEN: Yeah.

8 MR. TURNBULL: And I think the Zoning
9 Administrator had some issues with some summary
10 orders.

11 MS. SCHELLIN: And that's being taken
12 care of.

13 MR. TURNBULL: Yeah.

14 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. That was the
15 first time -- all these years I've never heard
16 summary orders didn't do any good. But anyway, we
17 can do a summary order.

18 MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We'll just make sure
20 it does some good.

21 Okay. Do we have anything else, Ms.
22 Schellin?

23 MS. SCHELLIN: No, sir.

24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. I want to
25 thank you for all the work you did which made this

1 case a lot easier tonight, so we appreciate that.

2 And with that, this hearing is adjourned.

3 (Hearing adjourned at 6:37 p.m.)

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