



OFFICE OF PLANNING STAFF PRESENT:

CRYSTAL MYERS

OFFICE OF ZONING LEGAL DIVISION STAFF PRESENT:

HILLARY LOVICK, ESQUIRE

DENNIS LIU, ESQUIRE

The transcript constitutes the minutes from the  
Public Hearing held on March 7, 2022.

T-A-B-L-E O-F C-O-N-T-E-N-T-S

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PRESENTATION:  
 Case Number: 21-28 - George Washington University  
 (Mt. Vernon Campus) 2022 Campus Plan, 2100 Foxhall Road,  
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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

(4:00 p.m.)

CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Today's date is March the 7th, 2022. We are convening and broadcasting this public hearing by video conferencing. My name is Anthony Hood, and I'm joined by Vice Chair Miller, Commissioner May, and Commissioner Imamura. Also, I'm joined by Ms. Sharon Schellin and Mr. Paul Young from the Office of Zoning; the Office of Zoning Legal Division, Ms. Lovick and Mr. Liu. I will ask all others to introduce themselves at the appropriate time.

The virtual public hearing notice is available on the Office of Zoning's website. This proceeding is being recorded by a court reporter, and the platforms used are webcast live, Webex and YouTube Live. The video will be available on the Office of Zoning's website after the hearing.

All persons planning to testify should have signed up in advance and will be called by name at the appropriate time. At the time of sign up, all participants will complete the oath or affirmation required by Subtitle Z, 408.7. Accordingly, all those listening on Webex or by phone will be muted during the hearing, and only those who have signed up to participate or testify will be unmuted at the appropriate time. When called, please state your name and home address before providing your testimony. When you are finished speaking, please mute your

1 audio.

2           If you experience difficulty accessing Webex or with  
3 your telephone call-in or have not signed up, then please call  
4 our OZ hotline number at 202-727-5471. If you wish to file  
5 written testimony or additional supporting documents during the  
6 hearing, then please be prepared to describe and discuss it at  
7 the time of your testimony.

8           This hearing will be conducted in accordance with the  
9 provisions of 11Z DCMR, Chapter 4 as follows: preliminary  
10 matters, the applicant's case. The applicant has up to 60  
11 minutes; but I know the applicant is listening. I think if they  
12 do 10 minutes and -- if they do 10 minutes, I think that's enough.  
13 But I think if they could just -- for the public, if they can  
14 let us kind of talk about what the case is for tonight. The  
15 report of the Office of Planning and District Department  
16 Transportation, report of other government agencies, report of  
17 the ANC. And in most cases, ANC 3D.

18           Testimony of organizations five minutes and individuals  
19 three minutes. And we will hear in the following order from  
20 those who are in support, opposition, and undeclared, and then  
21 we'll have rebuttal and closing by the applicant.

22           The subject of this evening's hearing is Zoning  
23 Commission Case No. 21-28. This is George Washington University,  
24 Mount Vernon Campus, 2022 Campus Plan at Square 1374, Lot 858,  
25 2100 Foxhall Road, NW. Again, today's date is March the 7th,

1 2022.

2           Again, the OZ hotline number is  
3 202-727-0789 for any concerns during these proceedings.

4           Is that the correct number? Oh, okay. I changed it  
5 here then. Okay.

6           At this time, the Commission will consider any  
7 preliminary matters. Does the staff have any preliminary  
8 matters?

9           MS. SCHELLIN: I do. I apologize for the background  
10 noise. I'm having some bathroom renovations done.

11           There is some proffered experts. I believe all have  
12 previously been accepted. Jami Milanovich in transportation, Jim  
13 Watson in transportation also; both from Wells + Associates;  
14 Matthew Bell in architecture; Christian Calleri in urban design.  
15 Both of them are from Perkins and -- Perkins Eastman. And  
16 Marcello Lopez from Wiles Mensch; I'm not sure I've got that  
17 right. But they've all previously been accepted. Miles -- I'm  
18 sorry, Marcello being requested in civil engineering. All have  
19 previously been accepted by the Commission. We just ask that the  
20 Commission accept them in this case as experts.

21           CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Schellin.

22           And (indiscernible) as well. I think all of them have  
23 been accepted. Unless we -- unless I see or hear anything  
24 different, we will continue that status.

25           Okay. We will continue that, Ms. Schellin. Anything

1 else?

2 MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. Dave Avitabile is representing  
3 the applicant from Goulston and Storrs. Benjamin Bergmann from  
4 ANC 3D, he's the chairman; or 3D06, the SMD Commissioner Jason  
5 -- I'm not sure if it's Rao or Rao, is authorized to represent  
6 also. And then you have from Crystal Myers from OP and Emma  
7 Blondin from DDOT here.

8 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. I have --  
9 Thank you.

10 While they're coming up, I just want to do a moment of  
11 silence for Ms. Mary Cuthbert. And I want to thank Commissioner  
12 May, as well for mentioning this as well. We all know Ms. Mary  
13 Cuthbert. She's a stalwart in this city. She worked very hard.  
14 She has become a great friend of mine, even invited me out to  
15 the ANC meeting and fed me. And so, I don't guess that's a  
16 conflict. But Ms. Cuthbert was -- she served as an ANC  
17 Commissioner for 34 years. She has been in front of us. And  
18 she's going to be -- we'll still remember for St. Elizabeth East  
19 Campus and many things in this city, not just in Ward 8, not just  
20 related to Ward 8, but many things across the city. She passed  
21 a couple days ago, and I wanted to do a moment of silence for  
22 her.

23 I don't know if, Commissioner May, if you wanted to add  
24 something or say something about Commissioner Cuthbert.

25 COMMISSIONER MAY: Sure. I'll take a second.

1 | Yeah, I first met Mary Cuthbert when we served together on the -  
2 | - I think it was the Committee of '21. I forget what it was.  
3 | But it was about 25 years ago when we were working on an update  
4 | to the District of Columbia's School System's Comprehensive  
5 | Facilities Plan, and got to know her in that context, and then,  
6 | of course, saw her many times over the years in zoning cases.  
7 | And she was a force to be reckoned with. And I'm sure that the  
8 | community that she served will miss her dearly, and certainly we  
9 | will as well. Thank you.

10 |           CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I don't know if any others have  
11 | anything they want to add.

12 |           Commissioner -- Vice Chair Miller?

13 |           VICE CHAIR MILLER: I guess you saw my mouth beginning  
14 | to move. Yes, I just want to echo everything that you, Mr.  
15 | Chairman, and Commissioner May have said.

16 |           Mary Cuthbert was a great community activist, a  
17 | proponent for her own neighborhood and for the city as a whole.  
18 | And we will miss her here -- her advocacy here at the Zoning  
19 | Commission, where she testified for decades and other --  
20 | obviously other settings as well. So to all her friends and  
21 | family, we wish her -- wish them condolences.

22 |           CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes, so we'll send our condolences  
23 | to Ward 8 and to the city. She was a major force to be reckoned  
24 | with. As (indiscernible) 'Mayor for Life,' would always say,  
25 | it's something that stuck in my mind, in having conversations

1 with him, she made a difference that made a difference. So with  
2 that, let's take a moment of silence in memory of Ms. Cuthbert.

3 (Pause.)

4 Okay. Thank you.

5 Okay. Ms. Schellin, can we bring everyone up?

6 Mr. Avitabile, you are really relaxed today, aren't  
7 you?

8 MR. AVITABILE: Sure.

9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Keep coming like that. I'm just  
10 messing with you.

11 MS. SCHELLIN: I think the weather confused everybody  
12 that we were on summer dress. Actually, we are, because --

13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We never left it.

14 MS. SCHELLIN: We are.

15 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: We never left it.

16 MR. AVITABILE: Pay attention to the rules.

17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yeah. You -- Mr. Avitabile, you are  
18 very well dressed for this occasion for sure.

19 MR. AVITABILE: Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: All right. We will get started.  
21 Hopefully, you heard our ten-minutes -- I think with all the  
22 support, I don't even know why we would -- we don't need to waste  
23 a lot of time when you got support like that.

24 MR. AVITABILE: All right. Thank you. Thank you,  
25 Commissioner Hood, and members of the Commission. We agree. I

1 think I'll just give you a summary of where things stand, and  
2 we'll stand on the record. Because we are here with unanimous  
3 support from all of the stakeholders involved.

4           This is the University's 2022 Mount Vernon Campus Plan.  
5 We've prepared it over the course of the last year in close  
6 consultation with both city agencies and -- as well as ANC 3D  
7 and the neighbors that are most immediately affected. And we are  
8 here with full support. We've come up with a series of  
9 comprehensive conditions, which we've updated periodically over  
10 the course of the application, that that have been developed in  
11 consultation with all of these stakeholders. The most recent  
12 version that was submitted Friday evening includes our last set  
13 of tweaks to address the only outstanding items that were in the  
14 record, which were some comments from the Department of  
15 Transportation, but we reached consensus with them. So we are  
16 here with support from the Office of Planning, and we've included  
17 conditions, responses to their requests, as well as requests from  
18 the Historic Preservation Office. We're here with support from  
19 the Department of Transportation with conditions that respond to  
20 their requests, support from ANC 3D, and support from the Mount  
21 Vernon campus neighbors who, in various forms, have been involved  
22 in every application that has been before this Commission, going  
23 back to the university's acquisition of the campus a couple of  
24 decades ago. And really, we're pleased to be here with a  
25 consensus plan. And so, I won't say anything further. But we

1 are here. We have a full team that's available to answer  
2 questions, including from the university, Mark Diaz, who's the  
3 Executive Vice President, as well as Brian Snyder and Kevin Days  
4 who were really the primary people that led the community-based  
5 planning process. And then we also have our planning and civil  
6 engineering and transportation experts as well available to  
7 answer questions. Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Mr. Avitabile, could you just touch  
9 on the racial equity lens. And I do know that GW is a big  
10 employer in the city. But if you could just talk briefly about  
11 that for the record. I know it's in the record, but --

12 MR. AVITABILE: Certainly. And that is something that  
13 we focus on. I think there are a number of ways in which the  
14 campus plan does -- when -- we address the racial equity lens.  
15 First, as the Office of Planning noted in their report, when the  
16 campus was created here, you know, many decades ago by the Mount  
17 Vernon College, it was vacant land, and it did not displace any  
18 residents of any kind. So there was no displacement with the  
19 original founding of this campus plan. I think the current campus  
20 plan and the way that it works, primarily positive impact on  
21 racial equity, because of the jobs that are created. You get a  
22 series of jobs across skills and spectrums that are created by  
23 university use. And so, the Mount Vernon campus certainly helps  
24 facilitate job creation.

25 I also think there are a number of programs that we

1 described in the application that the university runs with its  
2 students, wherein they get directly engaged in local civic life  
3 in the District of Columbia. I actually think there's an academic  
4 program that's centered around this, and it's based at the Mount  
5 Vernon College. So there are a number of ways in which the  
6 students get directly engaged in civic life as well. So those  
7 are positive ways in which the application advances racial  
8 equity. And we were not able to identify any negative ones.

9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Mr. Avitabile. Let me  
10 also thank GW -- George Washington University. The -- when I  
11 first got on the Commission, these conversations on the  
12 Commission, were not two minutes. They were more like 10 separate  
13 hearings. Ten separate days. So this just shows that the work  
14 that has been done over the years. I know we would get there.  
15 I just didn't know if I was still crewing the Commission to see  
16 it get there. I'm regressing a little bit for a moment, because  
17 I think it's appropriate. Ms. Harriet Hubbard, the late Ms.  
18 Harriet Hubbard, I know when I first got on the Commission, she  
19 had a cane. And every time I thought about -- see a GW case --  
20 she had a cane, and she told me in my confirmation hearing that  
21 she's going to be watching me, and she's going to be keeping an  
22 eye, she shook that cane in my face. You know, that if I didn't  
23 do right, I was probably going to get hit. I'm sure some others,  
24 like Vice Chair Miller and Commissioner May have stories about  
25 like Dorothy Miller, and some of those folks who come along the

1 way. And to see that we are able to still be here and see this  
2 today, a 10-minute hearing -- well, if I stop talking, it'll be  
3 ten minutes. A 10-minute hearing, I think, is very well noted.  
4 And I appreciate the work that the GW is doing. I just wanted  
5 to make sure I put that on the record. Okay. Let's see if we  
6 have any questions or comments.

7 Commissioner May?

8 COMMISSIONER MAY: I do not have any questions or  
9 comments. I just echo your statement that it's so great that  
10 we're reviewing campus plans in -- with relatively brief  
11 hearings, when they always all of them used to being such --  
12 well, maybe not all of them, but almost all of them was a really  
13 hard slog. And this is a testament to the efforts of universities  
14 to, you know, be better neighbors. So this was not the most  
15 contentious of the ones that we've ever dealt with in the past,  
16 but it had its moments of contention, and so it's good to be  
17 here. That's it.

18 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you.

19 Commissioner Imamura?

20 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
21 really don't have much more to add other than, you know, updating  
22 a campus plan always seems to generate a lot of energy and  
23 excitement with the campus, faculty, students, surrounding  
24 neighborhoods. So it's really nice to hear that all the  
25 stakeholders here have offered their full support. And from what

1 I've seen and read in the file, this looks like a good plan to  
2 move forward.

3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. And -- thank you.

4 And Vice Chair Miller?

5 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nothing  
6 to add. I agree with all of my colleagues' comments and applaud  
7 the applicant, the entire GW team for working with the community  
8 on addressing their concerns and incorporating them in the draft  
9 conditions, and -- as well as the other conditions that have been  
10 recommended by Office of Planning and DDOT. So thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you.

12 Ms. Schellin, do we have anyone representing the ANC  
13 3D for any cross? Chairman Bergmann or Mr. --?

14 MS. SCHELLIN: Well, let me see if either of them are  
15 here.

16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Commissioner Rao, I believe that's  
17 how you pronounce his name. Hopefully, I didn't mess that up.

18 MS. SCHELLIN: I do not see either of them here. There  
19 is a caller on, but I'm not sure who that is. They did not  
20 register to testify.

21 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Well, let's -- if they come  
22 on, then we'll hear from them.

23 MS. SCHELLIN: Right.

24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: If they come on, we'll hear from  
25 them later.

1 I will say that their letter -- all letters, we read  
2 and take into serious consideration. But their letter was very  
3 -- (audio interference) showed the work that everyone has been  
4 doing. So I really applaud you all again for the work that you  
5 all have done.

6 All right. Let's go to the report of the Office of  
7 Planning and District Department of Transportation. Ms. Myers,  
8 and I'm not sure. Who do we have? Ms. Blondin, I believe, from  
9 DDOT? Yes.

10 MS. MYERS: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Crystal  
11 Meyers for the Office of Planning. We'll keep this short and  
12 sweet. The Office of Planning appreciates the efforts of the  
13 applicant in working with the community on this plan, and we  
14 recommend approval. And we'll stand on the record of the staff  
15 report.

16 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you very much, Ms. Myers. And  
17 thank you for your well done report.

18 Ms. Blondin? DDOT.

19 MS. BLONDIN: Good afternoon. Thanks for having me.  
20 My name's Emma Blondin. I'm with DDOT. We coordinated a lot.  
21 We appreciate the applicant's coordination of the conditions, and  
22 we recommend approval, as long as the conditions in Exhibit 25  
23 are met.

24 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Blondin.

25 Mr. Avitabile, conditions -- all the conditions and

1 everything will be met, correct?

2 MR. AVITABILE: That's correct. We included everything  
3 we discussed with DDOT in Exhibit 25.

4 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.

5 MR. AVITABILE: They're all in there.

6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you.

7 All right. Commissioners, any questions of either Ms.  
8 Myers or Ms. Blondin? Either OP or DDOT?

9 Not seeing any -- does the applicant have any questions  
10 of either DDOT OR OP?

11 MR. AVITABILE: No. No, just thanks for their time.

12 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Mr. Chairman?

13 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes, Vice Chair Miller?

14 VICE CHAIR MILLER: I -- yeah, thank you.

15 I just -- a question not really relevant to the  
16 application, but my own curiosity as a former user of the tennis  
17 courts at the Mount Vernon Campus of GW when I think it was owned  
18 by the Sport and Health Club, or I don't know what it was, over  
19 10 years ago.

20 Anyway, I see that the tennis facilities are being  
21 replaced by a track and field facility, I think. So I just was  
22 curious, are any tennis courts remaining on the -- that Mount  
23 Vernon Campus, or where is the GW team going to practice? Is it  
24 going to be at Hains Point or Rock Creek Tennis Center? I'm just  
25 curious.

1 MR. AVITABILE: So, the tennis facilities at the campus  
2 will go away with this proposal, and in exchange for that  
3 additional facility.

4 I don't know if either Kevin or Brian, either of you  
5 are able to speak to the tennis facilities at the university  
6 we'll maintain in other locations, whether that's been determined  
7 yet. But do one of you want to come up and speak to that? That  
8 would be great.

9 MR. SNYDER: Yes. Honestly, right now, the GW athletics  
10 do not use those courts. Those courts are on top of a parking  
11 garage, which creates hazards, as far as control joints and  
12 tripping hazards. So technically, GW Athletics do not use that  
13 -- those tennis courts. We figured that we were getting a lot  
14 of demand as far as field time and track time, and that that  
15 really got a high use, as far as the GW faculty, staff and  
16 students. And so, that was sort of what we were replacing those  
17 with as far as looking at demand.

18 VICE CHAIR MILLER: So where does the varsity -- where  
19 does the team practice? They don't currently use those courts.  
20 What -- you don't know what courts they first -- currently use?

21 MR. SNYDER: Kevin, unless you know, I'll have to look  
22 it up. I'm not sure. I'll have to get back to you on it.

23 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Okay. it's not -- I'm just curious.

24 MR. DAYS: This is Kevin Days. At the moment, the  
25 tennis team is using courts off campus. And, as Mr. Snyder said,

1 they're -- the athletics department is not using that. And  
2 although we were getting lots of requests from community members  
3 for access to the field, one of the ways we've decided is to  
4 change the tennis courts, as Mr. Brian said, that were in poor  
5 condition to a track and field court. And we see that both  
6 faculty -- both our internal and external communities will get  
7 better use of that location.

8 VICE CHAIR MILLER: Thank you for that response. And  
9 I appreciate the responses you had to those concerns about  
10 lighting and noise from the facilities that you've incorporated  
11 into this application. Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Thank you.

13 So, the report of the ANC -- let me go back to that  
14 letter, because I think it's very important. I'm not going to  
15 read all of it, but let's see if I can find it right quick.

16 Again, Ms. Schellin, we don't have anyone here from the  
17 ANC, do we? Because I don't want to read their report if they're  
18 here.

19 Looking again. They have not signed on.

20 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. I'm just going to read a few  
21 excerpts, which I found really showed a lot of how the applicant  
22 has worked with the community.

23 "ANC 3D is writing to convey our support for the  
24 recently submitted George Washington University Mount Vernon  
25 Campus Plan. ANC 3D Commissioners participated in GW's extensive

1 community engagement and can confirm that GW responded in good  
2 faith and in an accommodating fashion to the concerns of the  
3 neighborhood. After several revisions, we do not find that the  
4 final plan raises any issues or adverse impact on the  
5 neighborhood."

6 So those are the kind of letters we like to see. I  
7 mean, we'll deal with the other ones for sure, but those are the  
8 kind of letters which really show the good neighbor policy. And  
9 I really -- I actually enjoyed reading that letter.

10 Okay. Other government -- we did have some -- we heard  
11 from DDOT. We did have some comments from the Department of  
12 Energy and Environment. As the applicant already knows, they  
13 encourage the university to design new campus buildings to be  
14 fully electric and (indiscernible), which is in the Exhibit 14.  
15 We do have a number of letters of support from Mount Vernon Campus  
16 Neighbors; Our Lady of Victory Church, Shaelyn McCarthy, St.  
17 Patrick's Episcopal Day School, The Lab school, Valentina  
18 Perrone. Hopefully, I pronounced that correct, if not -- that's  
19 Exhibit 23. So we have a number of letters in support.

20 Let's go to --

21 Ms. Schellin, do we have anyone -- organizations or  
22 persons to testify either in support, opposition, or undeclared?

23 MS. SCHELLIN: I have two listed. I just want to check  
24 one with Mr. Avitabile to see if that's part of their team or  
25 not.

1 Shaelyn McCarthy with GW. Is that part of your team?

2 MR. AVITABILE: No, it's not. Perhaps it might be a  
3 student that's planning to speak.

4 MS. SCHELLIN: Okay. So we have two proponents:  
5 Shaelyn McCarthy, and Pierre Oury, O-U-R-Y.

6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Let's bring both --

7 MS. SCHELLIN: Both in support. And no other signups  
8 for testimony.

9 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. So we will begin with Ms.  
10 McCarthy, and then we'll go with Pierre Oury.

11 Ms. McCarthy, the floor is yours.

12 MS. MCCARTHY: Hello everyone. Thank you very much.  
13 As a Student Project Assistant of the Mount Vernon Campus, I'm  
14 in full support of the 2022 Mount Vernon Campus Plan. The goals  
15 of the plan to preserve the urban retreat feel of the campus,  
16 while making a comprehensive set of improvements, will enhance  
17 my recreational and working experience on the campus. GW  
18 leadership and staff listened and worked with students, like  
19 myself, to address the shared goals of promoting an accessible,  
20 safe, and highly -- high quality experience.

21 As a GW student, I'm involved in club and intramural  
22 sports. Currently, my club spikeball team practices inside of  
23 the small racquetball courts in the Lerner Health and Wellness  
24 Center on the Foggy Bottom Campus. Practicing in these tiny  
25 rooms makes it very difficult to play the game, since there is

1 little space to move around. We have recently been taking buses  
2 to a facility in Virginia to practice. However, I have not been  
3 able to attend practices due to the long commute time. Having  
4 the ability to practice and new recreational facilities on the  
5 Mount Vernon Campus would allow our team to practice in a spacious  
6 environment that is more accessible to students.

7 In addition to being a member of the Spikeball team, I  
8 recently joined the flag football intramural league. Due to the  
9 extremely limited availability of field hours on the Mount Vernon  
10 Campus, we are unable to play on the Mount Vernon Campus. Since  
11 we are currently planning inside on basketball courts, we hope  
12 to be able to play the game in its traditional fashion at the  
13 proposed athletic facility on the Mount Vernon Campus.

14 For the past three years, I've also worked for Student  
15 Life on the Mount Vernon campus. Part of my role on the campus  
16 is to plan and execute university events for students, families,  
17 and neighbors to enjoy. A major part of creating these wonderful  
18 events includes moving around event supplies between campus  
19 buildings. Having pathways that are accessible and traffic-free  
20 would make it easier to travel with the event supplies between  
21 campus buildings. I fully support the George Washington  
22 University's 2022 Mount Vernon Campus Plan and believe its  
23 implementation will provide an enhancement to my recreational  
24 experience, participating in intramural and club sports, as well  
25 as improving my experience working for Student Life on the campus.

1 I would also like to acknowledge that I have served in  
2 the planning committee through the development process of the  
3 campus plan, and I've appreciated the campus neighbors in working  
4 with us throughout this process. Thank you for your time.

5 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you. Before we go to Mr. Oury  
6 -- Pierre Oury, Ms. McCarthy, thank you for taking the time to  
7 come down and let us know actual real life experiences. And I'm  
8 glad that you have been involved. And hopefully the practice  
9 being closer will cut down the commute time, and you'll be able  
10 to get your practice time in. And we appreciate you taking the  
11 time to come and let us know what actually real life experience.  
12 That's very important to us. So thank you so much. And continue  
13 to stay in any of these processes. So thank you.

14 Any other questions or comments Commissioners?

15 Okay. Does the applicant --

16 Commissioner Imamura.

17 COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yeah. I just want to say thank  
18 you to Ms. McCarthy for her engagement and enthusiasm for this  
19 project. It's not easy to come before the Commission. And I  
20 certainly agree with you, Mr. Chairman, that, you know, her real-  
21 life experience on campus is valuable for us to hear. So thank  
22 you.

23 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you.

24 Any other questions or comments?

25 Does the applicant have any questions of Ms. McCarthy?

1 MR. AVITABILE: No. No, sir.

2 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: And, again, I don't think we have  
3 anyone from the ANC, but we do have their outstanding,  
4 overwhelming support -- supportive letter. Okay.

5 Thank you, Ms. McCarthy.

6 Let's go to Pierre Oury. And if we mispronounce your  
7 name, if you could correct us?

8 MR. OURY: Hello. My name is Pierre Oury. I'm a  
9 neighbor of the Mount Vernon Campus, living at 4731 Berkeley  
10 Terrace. And I am speaking in support of this campus plan. I'm  
11 also associated with Exhibit 18, which is the letter of support  
12 that was generated by the Mount Vernon Campus Neighbors signed  
13 by my friend and neighbor, Stephen Gardner. And I just want to  
14 emphasize that, you know, everything you have said about this  
15 planning process, I want to agree with. Because this is my third  
16 campus plan with GW over the last several decades. And the  
17 collaborative process has just gotten better over the years. And  
18 I really do appreciate the community relations folks, Kevin Days  
19 and your team to address the concerns that we have. And, you  
20 know, we were in agreement with 90 percent of the plan. We did  
21 have one hold up which had to do with the athletic field lighting.  
22 You understood our concerns, and you modified the plan. So I  
23 really want to commend you for that. We are supportive of the  
24 entire plan and of the -- of GW's development proposals for the  
25 campus. And, again, I just want to commend the GW team for their

1 collaborative efforts over the years, especially during the  
2 pandemic, which was quite challenging. Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Thank you, Mr. Oury. We really  
4 appreciate you too as well taking time to come down and let us  
5 know what the Mount Vernon Neighbors thought about this project  
6 and the collaborative process. And I appreciate hearing also you  
7 saying that it has continued, so we can get the constituents and  
8 the residents who are the most affected, their view. So I'm not  
9 saying anything out of school or out -- of tune to what I was  
10 thinking, and you just confirmed that. So thank you.

11 Let's see if we have any further questions or comments  
12 of Mr. Oury.

13 Commissioners, any questions or comments?

14 Okay. Not seeing any --

15 Does the applicant have any comment or across?

16 MR. AVITABILE: No, sir.

17 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay.

18 All right. Well, thank you, Mr. Oury. We really  
19 appreciate your taking the time and come down and let us know  
20 your experience and your neighbors' experience as well.

21 All right. Ms. Schellin, I don't think we have anybody  
22 else.

23 So Mr. Avitabile, if you could just, I guess, give us  
24 some give us some rebuttal. Try to find some. You can go ahead  
25 and do your closing however you want to do it.

1 MR. AVITABILE: I -- we tried. We tried, but we really  
2 were able to dot our I's and cross our T's. We thank everyone  
3 for their time and engagement in this process. And we're happy  
4 to stand on the record otherwise. And, you know, if the  
5 Commission is so inclined, this might be a case where a summary  
6 order is appropriate. So we'd ask for that. That's my only ask.  
7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: I do want to note that we did have  
9 a letter of support from Palisades Community Association. I --  
10 for some reason, I wasn't able to see it. But it's noting that  
11 it's in -- and we have a number of letters, and I wanted to make  
12 sure I called them out as well as -- like I did the other ones.

13 So anyway, Commissioners, any follow up questions or  
14 comments?

15 I see Ms. Lovick. Ms. Lovick, you have something?  
16 You're on mute, Ms. Lovick.

17 MS. LOVICK: Sorry. I was muted. I was saying a  
18 summary order is fine in this situation.

19 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Oh, okay. Okay. Thank you.

20 All right. We've been given legal sufficiency to do a  
21 summary order, so we will move in that fashion. So Commissioners,  
22 I think this is definitely flavored for our approval. There's  
23 nothing standing in front of this. The record is complete. The  
24 merits of this case are -- warrants our approval. So let me get  
25 a motion from one of my colleagues.

1           VICE CHAIR MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I would move that the  
2 Zoning Commission approve Zoning Commission Case No. 21-28,  
3 George Washington University, Mount Vernon Campus, 2022 Campus  
4 Plan at Square 1374, Lot 850. That's at 2100 Foxhall Road,  
5 Northwest, and ask for a second.

6           COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Second.

7           CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. It's been moved and properly  
8 second. Any further discussion?

9           Not seeing any, Ms. Schellin, would you do a roll call  
10 vote, please?

11          MS. SCHELLIN: Yes, sir.

12          Commissioner Miller?

13          VICE CHAIR MILLER: Yes.

14          MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner May?

15          COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes.

16          MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Hood?

17          CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Yes.

18          MS. SCHELLIN: Commissioner Imamura?

19          COMMISSIONER IMAMURA: Yes.

20          MS. SCHELLIN: The vote is 4-0-1 to approve final action  
21 in Zoning Commission Case No. 21-28. The minus one being the  
22 3rd Mayoral Appointee seat vacant. And this is to, if I heard  
23 correctly, the Commission approving a summary order being issued  
24 in this case. If the applicant could provide that within two  
25 weeks from today.

1 MS. AVITABILE: Yes.

2 MS. SCHELLIN: Submit it to the record and a Word  
3 version to me.

4 MR. AVITABILE: Yes.

5 MS. SCHELLIN: That's it.

6 CHAIRPERSON HOOD: Okay. Okay. So thank you all. I  
7 thank the applicant and Mr. Avitabile and your team for a great  
8 job working with community so that that came out. So thank you  
9 all very much. And we appreciate your participation tonight.

10 The Zoning Commission will meet again March the 10th  
11 at 4:00 p.m. on these same platforms. And that's our regular  
12 monthly meeting, so you can join in at the same time at 4:00 p.m.

13 So we don't have anything else before us, we want to  
14 thank everyone for their participation tonight. I'm trying to  
15 push it through -- for their participation tonight. And this  
16 hearing is adjourned.

17 (Whereupon the above-entitled matter went off the  
18 record at 4:34 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Public Hearing

Before: DCZC

Date: 03-07-22

Place: Teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my  
direction; further, that said transcript is a true and  
accurate record of the proceedings.

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GARY EUELL