

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

+ + + + +

ZONING COMMISSION

+ + + + +

PUBLIC HEARING

+ + + + +

-----:

IN THE MATTER OF: :

:

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON : Case No.

UNIVERSITY - FOGGY BOTTOM : 06-11C/06-

12C

CAMPUS: SECOND-STAGE PUD :

AND FURTHER PROCESSING OF :

AN APPROVED CAMPUS PLAN :

FOR SQUARE 39, LOT 803 :

-----:

Thursday,

June 16, 2011

Hearing Room 220 South

441 4th Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C.

The Public Hearing of Case No.

06-11C/06-12C by the District of Columbia

Zoning Commission convened at 6:30 p.m. in

the Office of Zoning Hearing Room at 441 4th

Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20001,

Anthony J. Hood, Chairman, presiding.

ZONING COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

ANTHONY J. HOOD Chairman

PETER MAY Commissioner (NPS)

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MICHAEL G. TURNBULL FAIA, Commissioner
(OAC)

OFFICE OF ZONING STAFF PRESENT:

SHARON S. SCHELLIN, Secretary

OFFICE OF PLANNING STAFF PRESENT:

JENNIFER STEINGASSER
ARLOVA JACKSON

*The transcript constitutes the
minutes from the Public Hearing held on June
16, 2011.*

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

2 (6:34 p.m.)

3 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Good evening,
4 ladies and gentlemen. This is a public
5 hearing of the Zoning Commission of the
6 District of Columbia for Thursday, June 16th.

7 My name is Anthony Hood. Joining
8 me are Commissioner May, Commissioner
9 Turnbull; and Ms. -- Office of Zoning staff,
10 Ms. Sharon Schellin; Office of Planning Staff,
11 Ms. Steingasser and Ms. Jackson.

12 Ms. Steingasser, are we expecting
13 Mr. Lawson?

14 MS. STEINGASSER: No, sir.

15 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Thank you.

16 This proceeding is being recorded
17 by a Court Reporter and is also webcast live.

18 Accordingly, we must ask you to refrain from
19 any disruptive noises or actions in the
20 hearing room.

21 The subject of this evening's
22 hearing is Zoning Commission Case Number 06-

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1 11C/06-12C. This is a request by George
2 Washington University for approval of a
3 second-stage PUD at Square -- and further
4 processing of a campus plan at Square 39.

5 Notice of today's hearing was
6 published in the D.C. Register on April 22,
7 2011, and copies of that announcement are
8 available to my left on the wall near the
9 door.

10 I don't know if I read that right,
11 but, you know, I learned a long time ago just
12 keep on going.

13 (Laughter.)

14 This hearing will be conducted in
15 accordance with the provisions of 11 DCMR
16 30.22 as follows: preliminary matters,
17 applicant's case, report of the Office of
18 Planning, report of other government agencies,
19 report of the ANC -- in this case it's 2A --
20 organizations and persons in support,
21 organizations and persons in opposition,
22 rebuttal, and closing by the applicant.

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1 The following time constraints
2 will be maintained in this meeting: the
3 applicant, 60 minutes; organizations, five --
4 60 minutes if needed; organizations, five
5 minutes; individuals, three minutes. The
6 Commission intends to adhere to the time
7 limits as strictly as possible and notes that
8 no -- as possible in order to hear the case in
9 a reasonable period of time. The Commission
10 reserves the right to change the time limits
11 for presentations, if necessary, and notes
12 that no time shall be ceded.

13 All persons appearing before the
14 Commission are to fill out two witness cards.

15 These cards are located to my left on the
16 table near the door. Upon coming forward to
17 speak to the Commission, please give both
18 cards to the Reporter sitting to my right
19 before taking a seat at the table.

20 When presenting information to the
21 Commission, please turn on and speak into the
22 microphone, first stating your name and home

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1 address. When you are finished speaking,
2 please turn your microphone off, so that your
3 microphone is no longer picking up sound or
4 background noise.

5 The decision of the Commission in
6 this case must be based exclusively on the
7 public record. To avoid any appearance to the
8 contrary, the Commission requests that persons
9 present not engage the members of the
10 Commission in conversation during any recess
11 or at any time.

12 The staff will be available
13 throughout the hearing to discuss procedural
14 questions.

15 Please turn off all beepers and
16 cell phones at this time, so as not to disrupt
17 these proceedings.

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

22 MS. SCHELLIN: Please raise your

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1 *right hand.*

2 *(Whereupon, an oath was administered to all*
3 *persons planning to testify.)*

4 *Thank you.*

5 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. At this*
6 *time, the Commission will consider any*
7 *preliminary matters. Does the staff have any*
8 *preliminary matters?*

9 *MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Staff would*
10 *advise that we have received the affidavit of*
11 *maintenance. It is in order, and I believe*
12 *the applicant has a couple witnesses they*
13 *would like to proffer as experts.*

14 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Thank you.*
15 *Good evening, Mr. Avitabile. I believe that*
16 *you have two witnesses you would like to --*
17 *Ms. Milanovich has already been proffered, so*
18 *we don't need to go through that. I think Mr.*
19 *Arlen Li, Payette -- Payte --*

20 *MR. AVITABILE: Yes, Arlen Li at*
21 *Payette, our architect, right here to my*
22 *right.*

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1 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay.

2 MR. AVITABILE: And we would like
3 to proffer him as an expert in the field of
4 architecture. I believe his resume was
5 included in one of our filings, and it is
6 before you.

7 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay.
8 Commissioners, his resume is behind Tab B in
9 one of our submissions. We have two of them
10 with B, but one of them -- one of them. But
11 anyway, any problems?

12 (No response.)

13 Okay. Mr. Avitabile, so we will
14 proffer him as an expert. We will make him an
15 expert. So you -- are you ready to begin?

16 MR. AVITABILE: We certainly are.
17 We do have a presentation this evening. We
18 have handed in the PowerPoint. I think our
19 total presentation runs about 45 minutes. We
20 do feel that there is a relatively full record
21 here before you.

22 If you are inclined and feel the

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1 *record is sufficient, we are happy to rest on*
2 *the record and just answer questions, or we*
3 *are happy to do our presentation, which will*
4 *include a little bit of a discussion of the*
5 *School of Public Health, a little bit more*
6 *about GW and why this building is important.*

7 *Of course, our architect will walk*
8 *you around the building and the changes that*
9 *we made to the design to respond to the*
10 *Commission, and then, finally, just a couple*
11 *of comments from Ms. Milanovich on the traffic*
12 *and parking.*

13 *So we are happy to do the*
14 *presentation, or rest on the record and answer*
15 *questions, whatever the Commission prefers.*

16 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Let me open*
17 *it up to my Commissioners. We heard a*
18 *proposal before us -- rest on the record, 45*
19 *minutes, or slight presentation.*

20 *COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: The only*
21 *thing -- I mean, I think I am willing to rest*
22 *on the record, unless they want to do a*

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1 *modified version or just show the differences*
2 *between what is before us now and what was at*
3 *setdown. I know architecturally I saw some*
4 *differences on the elevations, the striations*
5 *of the terra cotta and all that. So, I mean,*
6 *if they wanted to talk about that, I'm --*

7 *COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes. I am*
8 *interested in the architectural presentation*
9 *for those reasons, and --*

10 *COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Yes.*

11 *COMMISSIONER MAY: -- I want to*
12 *understand a little bit more about the design,*
13 *because there were a few things that changed,*
14 *but there were some things that we commented*
15 *on that didn't change very much. I would like*
16 *to understand better what the rationale was --*

17 *COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay.*

18 *COMMISSIONER MAY: -- on those.*
19 *In terms of any of the other issues, I mean, I*
20 *think we understand the need for the facility,*
21 *and that's clear from the record in terms of*
22 *traffic and parking. You know, we may want to*

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1 talk about the loading situation --

2 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Right.

3 COMMISSIONER MAY: -- but, you
4 know, I would expect that could be fairly
5 brief, too.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay.

7 CHAIRMAN HOOD: And I would just
8 suggest that, as my two colleagues said, the
9 architectural piece of it, and also, if we
10 could respond to the DDOT letter, the ANC
11 letter, and I'm not sure -- any other letters
12 that have raised concerns? But anyway, any
13 letters that have raised any concerns.

14 MR. AVITABILE: Well, certainly.
15 We are happy to do that. And I think you will
16 -- our presentation was actually designed to
17 focus on what the building looked like before
18 and what it looks like now, so it will
19 actually speak right to those points.

20 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay.

21 MR. AVITABILE: Good evening. My
22 name is David Avitabile, land use counsel for

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1 *George Washington University, with the law*
2 *firm of Goulston & Storrs. We are here*
3 *tonight on Zoning Commission Case Number 06-*
4 *11C/06-12C.*

5 *I think what I'd like, first, is*
6 *to ask Dr. Lynn Goldman, who is the Dean of*
7 *the School of Public Health, to just speak*
8 *very briefly for about a minute about what the*
9 *School of Public Health is and its role and*
10 *its relationship with the District of*
11 *Columbia. Following that, we will ask our*
12 *architect to focus on those architectural*
13 *details.*

14 *So Dr. Goldman, please.*

15 *DR. GOLDMAN: Yes. Thanks to the*
16 *Commission for having this hearing. My name*
17 *is Lynn Goldman, and I'm Dean of the School of*
18 *Public Health and Health Services. And what*
19 *we are is a school that does training in*
20 *public health professions.*

21 *And those professions in our*
22 *school are organized into seven different*

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1 departments that are scattered all around the
2 Foggy Bottom campus area. So the building
3 will, for the first time, bring us together in
4 one place with state-of-the-art classrooms. I
5 think you understand that.

6 One of the unique things about
7 what we do is that we are very engaged with
8 the D.C. community. We have hundreds of
9 partnerships with not-for-profits and
10 government agencies here. Our students, as
11 part of their training, due practica, and many
12 of them wind up in -- actually in jobs, in
13 D.C. and public health.

14 And I, of course, gave you a lot
15 of information about this, but just to give
16 you a couple of examples of the kinds of
17 things that we are involved with, a big grant
18 that we just received from the Federal
19 Government called *Be Yourself/Se Tu Mismo*,
20 which is a teen pregnancy prevention program
21 specifically targeted to adolescents.

22 This is -- brings \$5 million in

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1 federal funds to the District over the next
2 five years to work with the community on this
3 very important problem.

4 The D.C. Developmental Center for
5 AIDS Research, which is funded by a \$3 million
6 five-year NIH grant, that is not only about
7 the grant itself but the partnerships for the
8 D.C. Health Department, with Alfred
9 University, Georgetown, the VA, and others,
10 and the many, many grants that this money is
11 already creating and will continue to create
12 in terms of bringing NIH funding to the
13 District.

14 Of course, and fighting the AIDS
15 epidemic is very important, and we think we
16 have -- we have already been making an impact
17 there along with D.C. Department of Health.

18 Our Center for Health and Health
19 Care in Schools works directly with the D.C.
20 Department of Schools to promote school
21 health.

22 And the last example I wanted to

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1 give is how our Center for Public Health
2 Policy is working with the D.C. Department of
3 Health to help them to implement the new rules
4 for Medicaid and other health care insurance
5 under the Affordable Care Act -- a real
6 partnership, and also a place where the fact
7 that we are right at the cutting edge of
8 health policy, we can provide that kind of
9 collaboration with D.C.

10 So, again, I very much appreciate
11 the opportunity to be here, and, of course, we
12 are very much looking forward to being able to
13 bring our school together in this state-of-
14 the-art building.

15 Thank you so much.

16 MR. AVITABILE: Thank you. Next,
17 I will ask our architect to just talk a little
18 bit about the changes that we made to the
19 design of the building. I think he will
20 refresh you a little bit on the orientation of
21 the building and the relationship to the
22 circle, which I know is one of the concerns of

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1 the Commission, and we will walk through that.

2 Arlen?

3 MR. LI: Thanks. I will skip
4 ahead to the point at which we address some of
5 the design changes.

6 Just as a reminder here, the
7 organization of the building, the building is
8 located with Washington Circle to the
9 northeast, the GW Hospital to the southeast,
10 and a mix of residential buildings to the west
11 along 24th Street.

12 The organization of the building
13 responds to the three very different contexts
14 of the site. We have organized classrooms in
15 student work areas to the northeast portion of
16 the building facing Washington Circle, with
17 the classrooms pulled inboard instead of
18 occupying the full perimeter wall, and,
19 therefore, allowing a more public area to have
20 direct contact onto the circle.

21 On the west side facing the
22 residences, individual offices are located

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1 along the perimeter, with open office areas
2 inboard. The smaller scale spaces of these
3 offices are in keeping with the residential
4 nature of the buildings across the street.

5 And to the southeast we have
6 responded by locating the building entrance
7 point directly across from the G.W. Hospital,
8 which is a larger institutional scale
9 building.

10 One of the questions the
11 Commission had specifically was the reason for
12 the double curve along the facade of
13 Washington Circle, and we show this context
14 site plan in response to that question. You
15 will see that when we looked at the site we
16 observed the strong line defined by the
17 circle, but we also saw that K Street is a
18 major crossing. And to recognize this, we
19 established the north facade of the building
20 to define both one end of the office bar and
21 to maintain the edge along K Street.

22 At the same time, we also provided

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1 a strong edge along the circle to maintain the
2 street edge on that end. And in order to
3 mitigate between the two geometries, we
4 introduced the reverse curve.

5 I think you see that a little bit
6 more clearly in the model that we have. We
7 have a site model here that will illustrate
8 that, and then we have a larger facade model
9 on the other side of the room, which
10 illustrates how that curve is working with the
11 two sides of the building.

12 This next series of slides will
13 focus on a number of rendered views of the
14 building, with a comparison of the pre-setdown
15 design to the current revised design in
16 response to comments from the Commission,
17 Office of Planning, DDOT, and community
18 groups, starting here with a view looking
19 southwest from the circle.

20 In the revised design, the top
21 band of the building has been lightened along
22 the circle face by breaking the width of the

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1 *band into two thinner strands, and running*
2 *spandrel glass in between them.*

3 *Signage on the band above the*
4 *first level has been reduced in scale and made*
5 *less obtrusive by using three standing letters*
6 *against a spandrel glass backdrop. The*
7 *signage at this level on the New Hampshire*
8 *Avenue face has been eliminated altogether.*

9 *Thirdly, the stone base along the*
10 *circle has been reduced in depth and now*
11 *brought back in the same plane of the faceted*
12 *windows above, thereby greatly reducing the*
13 *visual heaviness of the base.*

14 *The pre-setdown design here shown*
15 *looking southeast from the intersection of*
16 *24th Street and K Street. The revised design*
17 *here again shows the lightened band along the*
18 *circle face and, in addition, the view also*
19 *shows a revised facade along the 24th Street*
20 *face facing the residences, which has been*
21 *changed from a highly repetitive pattern of*
22 *single-sized windows to a design with more*

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1 *windows of varying widths.*

2 *Further revisions that have been*
3 *made to this facade will be discussed with a*
4 *couple of comparison slides that I will show*
5 *later.*

6 *Again, the pre-setdown view, now*
7 *looking north from the intersection of 24th*
8 *Street and New Hampshire Avenue. Once again,*
9 *the revised 24th Street facade is shown from*
10 *the other end. The park to the south of the*
11 *building is more fully illustrated here. I'm*
12 *sorry. This is the revised design.*

13 *We note that the area of the park*
14 *is enlarged by approximately 50 percent from*
15 *the existing park, and enhanced to provide a*
16 *more inviting space for the surrounding*
17 *community. We have shown an open view of the*
18 *south face, but in reality there is a large*
19 *oak tree that we will be preserving at the*
20 *south end of the site, and it will occupy much*
21 *of the view as shown in the inset to the upper*
22 *right.*

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1 *At ground level, again, we have*
2 *the pre-setdown design. And then, looking at*
3 *the same view, along the street, walking along*
4 *the circle towards the hospital, you will see*
5 *that the stone base is greatly lightened, both*
6 *in physical and visual bulk. The signage is*
7 *done in a very lighter treatment with the*
8 *letters freestanding against the backdrop.*

9 *This rendering also shows how the*
10 *faceting of the facade will create, to*
11 *vehicles and pedestrians moving in this*
12 *direction, a view with a mix of solid faces*
13 *and glass as opposed to the next view looking*
14 *in the opposite direction where pedestrians,*
15 *who will be the circulation in this direction,*
16 *will see a much more open face of the*
17 *building.*

18 *This view along New Hampshire*
19 *Avenue, looking along the southeast face,*
20 *shows the arcade starting from the corner of*
21 *the circle and New Hampshire Avenue. There*
22 *were questions about this arcade from the*

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1 *Commission and other groups, and we offer the*
2 *following as benefits to this feature.*

3 *We feel that having an arcade in*
4 *this location gives back some of the building*
5 *space at ground level to public space. It*
6 *provides for alternate pedestrian paths around*
7 *the New Hampshire Avenue and circle corner of*
8 *the building. As shown in the inset, this*
9 *corner will be right on the main pedestrian*
10 *route around the circle.*

11 *Thirdly, it gives a presence along*
12 *Washington Circle for the building, even*
13 *without a physical entrance door. It provides*
14 *a covered walkway area with protection from*
15 *weather for people entering and leaving the*
16 *building, and it shortens the length of the*
17 *facade along the circle at the ground level.*

18 *In looking at the specifically at*
19 *the 24th Street facade, this is, again,*
20 *showing the pre-design view, pre-setdown view,*
21 *and then the revised design.*

22 *We have made a number of changes*

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1 to this facade of the building. As we saw in
2 the previous renderings, the overall window
3 area has been increased, and we have used
4 varying window widths to provide more interest
5 rather than an unreleased pattern.

6 The orientation of the terra cotta
7 panels has been changed from horizontal to
8 vertical to match the orientation of the other
9 faces. Elements used on the other facades
10 have also been added to the 24th Street side,
11 including the fascia band at the top of the
12 building, metal panels, and horizontal banding
13 at the floor levels to help integrate the
14 different sides of the building.

15 With the elimination of the
16 loading dock, the overhead service doors have
17 been replaced by a much smaller set of double
18 doors, and the curb cut for vehicles has been
19 replaced by a narrower service ramp at the
20 sidewalk.

21 Seen here is an illustration of
22 the varying terra cotta panels and profiles

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1 that will be used in multiple patterns on the
2 different building sides to give visual
3 interest to the facades. The panels will have
4 a three-dimensional quality. We have some
5 samples here that we will show you to
6 illustrate that.

7 They have a three-dimensional
8 quality to them through a combination of
9 protruding ribs, pattern, texture, and
10 recessed grooves. Besides the terra cotta,
11 the pallet of exterior materials will consist
12 of stone in the form of granite and recycled
13 limestone from the existing building onsite,
14 glass and metal panels. Again, we have
15 samples of these materials as well.

16 We have on the samples one sample
17 of the actual terra cotta material, and two
18 other simulations which show the patterns that
19 we are proposing for those panels that will
20 give a depth and a three-dimensional quality
21 to the surface.

22 The fritted glass, which is one of

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1 the samples as well, is a patterned silk
2 screen imprinted on glass. We are proposing
3 that we use this at the lower portions of the
4 office windows along 24th Street as a way of
5 providing visual screening and reducing solar
6 gain.

7 We are also requesting some
8 flexibility for the possible use of this glass
9 treatment on other facades of the building,
10 notably the southeast window wall, where there
11 could be a further benefit in terms of solar
12 gain reduction while maintaining a high level
13 of daylight.

14 In addition to the building design
15 changes, we have also incorporated a number of
16 landscape elements to address comments from
17 the various city groups, various city and
18 community groups. These include concrete
19 pavers along the circle, widened sidewalks
20 around the entire site, enhancement of the
21 existing park and new planting areas,
22 preservation of mature trees, where possible,

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1 and inclusion of a continuous planting strip
2 along much of the circle side to discourage
3 jaywalking.

4 The paving materials proposed are
5 concrete pavers along the circle, similar to
6 those used on the Square 54 project,
7 cobblestones located between planting beds
8 along the street per the GWU streetscape
9 guidelines, and brick paving on concrete base,
10 again, per the GWU streetscape guidelines and
11 comments from the community.

12 And then, finally, we are
13 incorporating numerous sustainable design
14 features into the project. Just to highlight
15 a few, we have a green roof, which will help
16 with the retainage of storm water onsite, as
17 well as keeping the roof temperature lower
18 during the summer and reducing the heat island
19 effect.

20 There is no irrigation plan for
21 the site. The projected energy performance of
22 the building is 32 percent below the current

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1 *ASHRAE standard. The choice of terra cotta*
2 *cladding means the use of a durable building*
3 *component made from a natural abundant*
4 *material, elimination of the need for sealants*
5 *and caulking, and a reduction in required*
6 *maintenance, and the daylighting and possible*
7 *natural ventilation of interior spaces via the*
8 *central light well that will be a portion --*
9 *that will be a central portion of the*
10 *building.*

11 *I would be happy to answer any*
12 *further questions on this or any other items*
13 *which I have addressed.*

14 *MR. AVITABILE: All right. Great.*

15 *And now I will ask our traffic expert, Ms.*
16 *Milanovich, to just briefly address the site*
17 *plan issues regarding loading and bike*
18 *circulation.*

19 *MS. MILANOVICH: Thank you. Good*
20 *evening. For the record, my name is Jamie*
21 *Milanovich with Wells and Associates. I want*
22 *to specifically address the loading issue that*

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1 *you guys raised. Just to orient you, north is*
2 *pointing to the left on this slide, so we have*
3 *24th Street here along the bottom of the*
4 *slide, K Street to the left, Washington*
5 *Circle, and then New Hampshire Avenue here.*

6 *You may recall from the original*
7 *submission we had originally proposed a curb*
8 *cut into the loading area in roughly the same*
9 *location as the existing curb cut for the*
10 *existing loading area.*

11 *We met with DDOT, had several*
12 *discussions with them. Based on their input*
13 *and feedback, we eliminated that curb cut and*
14 *are going to be providing a 60-foot loading*
15 *zone along the curb on 24th Street.*

16 *This has the significant benefit*
17 *of eliminating the need for trucks to back*
18 *into the loading area off of 24th Street, and*
19 *it also eliminates pedestrian and vehicle*
20 *conflicts from those trucks crossing the*
21 *sidewalk area.*

22 *As Arlen mentioned, there will be*

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1 a three- to four-foot service ramp that those
2 making deliveries can utilize to wheel the
3 deliveries back into the service area of the
4 building.

5 One of the other things I wanted
6 to point out was that we are providing
7 significant bicycle parking onsite. We have
8 81 bicycle parking spaces; 66 of those will be
9 located outside near the main entrance, in
10 this area. But we also have a provision, at
11 DDOT's request, to provide 15 bicycle spaces
12 inside the building, which will be roughly in
13 this area of the building.

14 There will also be shower and
15 changing facilities available to those who
16 bike or walk or jog to the building as well.
17 So all of that to help eliminate the need for
18 automobile trips.

19 MR. AVITABILE: All right. Thank
20 you very much.

21 So with that, I think I will just
22 briefly address the reports that were filed on

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1 the record. First, the ANC report. We met
2 with the ANC I guess it was last month, and we
3 spoke with them about the project. We had met
4 with them previously before we had filed, and
5 met with them again, and they only had two
6 issues.

7 One was the hours of the loading.

8 We came to an agreement that we would have
9 loading from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. This way
10 we would avoid -- 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., I'm
11 sorry, and then, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., so
12 that we would avoid loading during the peak
13 hours, with the caveat that from 7:00 a.m. to
14 9:00 a.m. we would have the permission to use
15 the loading for the occasional catering or
16 food service that might be needed. And that
17 was amenable to the ANC.

18 The second issue that was raised
19 by the ANC was a guarantee or assurance
20 regarding the improvements to the park, and we
21 proposed conditions that you could include in
22 the final order that would address that as

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1 well, and this way we would implement it prior
2 to the issuance of the Certificate of
3 Occupancy. So I think, with that, we
4 addressed the issues that were raised by the
5 ANC.

6 Regarding the Office of Planning's
7 report, they just had as a condition of
8 approval, they asked us to submit three plans
9 prior to final action, which we submitted this
10 evening. It's a package that looks something
11 like this with some large plans and some small
12 plans.

13 The first plan is just a plan
14 illustrating where the loading zone is and how
15 the loading zone -- access to the building is
16 from a loading zone.

17 The second plan illustrates where
18 the interior bike spaces are, how they are
19 accessed, and also shows how you get down one
20 floor to where the bike showers are.

21 And then, the last two drawings
22 just are close-ups of our streetscape plan

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1 that illustrate some of the widths associated
2 with the sidewalks. And so I think with that
3 we have addressed the Office of Planning's
4 issues.

5 Attached to the Office of Planning
6 report was -- were some comments from the
7 Department of the Environment, and we have
8 addressed all of those. I think the first
9 comment was about our LEAD rating. And as we
10 have said, we are looking to achieve a minimum
11 of LEAD Silver, the equivalent of LEAD Silver
12 for this building.

13 And as I think we have testified
14 to in the past, GW has a track record of not
15 just meeting but exceeding those goals. Some
16 of the recent residence halls that were
17 completed, both here and at the Mount Vernon
18 campus, achieved the equivalent of LEAD Gold.

19 The second item regarding our
20 stormwater -- our project, is designed to meet
21 the EPA's proposed MS-4 stormwater
22 requirement.

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1 The third thing that DDOE asked
2 for was the streetscape plan, which we
3 submitted to them.

4 And then, the last item that DDOE
5 asked for was for the university to explore
6 LID in the open public space, that park that I
7 just discussed. And we said we would continue
8 to explore that as we move towards final
9 design.

10 And then, last but not least, the
11 Department of Transportation -- I think
12 overall was a pretty encouraging and strong
13 report in support. And they really -- the
14 only thing that they mentioned was asking for
15 us to do monitoring after the certificate of
16 occupancy to see how the loading is working,
17 how the bike parking is being used, and we are
18 happy to do that.

19 So with that, I think we have
20 addressed everything. I did want to just
21 mention for the record again, so it was clear,
22 there are two areas of flexibility that we are

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1 *looking for that are new that weren't in our*
2 *initial filing.*

3 *One which was mentioned in our 20-*
4 *day submission is, now that we have moved our*
5 *loading out of the building, we need*
6 *flexibility from the requirement that we*
7 *normally would have had to have a loading*
8 *space within the building. And so we are*
9 *asking for that flexibility from the loading*
10 *requirements as a condition of -- as an*
11 *element of the PUD.*

12 *The second area of flexibility, as*
13 *Arlen just mentioned while he was speaking,*
14 *was the ability -- flexibility to explore*
15 *using the glass frit on not only the 24th*
16 *Street side where we are going to use it, but*
17 *also explore using it on the New Hampshire*
18 *side of the building to I believe avoid some*
19 *solar gain.*

20 *So with that, I think that we have*
21 *a strong record here. We are happy to report*
22 *everyone is pleased and in support. I also do*

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1 want to make sure it is clear that not only
2 did we make some of these changes because of
3 the discussions with the Department of
4 Transportation, but also because of
5 discussions with representatives of the ANC
6 and representatives of the West End Citizens
7 Association. And I think you also have a
8 letter from the West End Citizens Association
9 indicating that they were pleased with a lot
10 of those changes.

11 So with that, I think we are done,
12 and we are all happy to answer any questions
13 that you might have.

14 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Thank you
15 very much for adjusting your presentation. We
16 appreciate that. As you stated, the record is
17 complete. It looks like you've done a lot of
18 work, especially getting -- let me see, no
19 objection. I want to report it just like it
20 is. No objection from ANC's concerns.

21 But let me ask -- let's go right
22 to the ANC letter -- letter dated May 20th.

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1 You mentioned two points that have been taken
2 -- deliveries, as far as the loading. And
3 there was one other point that you worked out
4 with the ANC.

5 MR. AVITABILE: The proof about
6 the park. They asked for demonstrable proof
7 of the planned park at the southern tip of the
8 property. It was right on page 1 of their
9 first paragraph there.

10 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. They also
11 have a list -- some of these things I think
12 are just germane to the whole campus, at least
13 that's the way I read. "For example, this is
14 the third development whereby the ANC is
15 requesting a construction management plan to
16 address the concerns." Did you agree to that?
17 Are you proffering -- are you going to do a
18 construction management plan?

19 MR. AVITABILE: I'll ask Ms.
20 Knight to just state it for the record.

21 MS. O'NEIL-KNIGHT: Well, since I
22 believe I am the only one that hasn't

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1 addressed the Commission tonight, for the
2 record, I am Alicia Knight, the Senior
3 Associate Vice President for Operations at GW.

4 And, yes, we would be happy to provide the
5 ANC with a construction management plan for
6 this project as we move closer toward having
7 one available.

8 CHAIRMAN HOOD: So basically
9 everything in this letter dated May 20th
10 George Washington has agreed to or is working
11 with the community, or however it is, you
12 agree to everybody.

13 And some have actually -- all of
14 us are not -- some of us actually have some
15 accolades and appreciate and thank you for
16 making certain changes, so --

17 MR. AVITABILE: Yes.

18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: What about DDOT?
19 I know that came under separate cover. I'm
20 trying to remember what they said.

21 MR. AVITABILE: I think some of
22 what they said on page 2 of their analysis was

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1 they wanted to make sure that we would have
2 someone from the property management monitor
3 the loading area, and there would certainly be
4 people involved that could address that. If
5 you want to just address briefly --

6 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Also, let me --
7 this is -- actually, I have it underlined.
8 "DDOT believes that the applicant should add
9 an electronic information display to the lobby
10 of the new building to place emphasis on GW's
11 transportation management plan." Did you
12 agree to that? Apparently, they're asking for
13 an electronic bulletin board out in front of
14 the building. Is that something that you --

15 MS. O'NEIL-KNIGHT: I believe it's
16 in the building lobby.

17 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Oh, it's in the
18 lobby. Okay.

19 MS. O'NEIL-KNIGHT: Or at least
20 that's how I read it or understood it. Hold
21 on. Oh, yes, to display to the lobby of the
22 new building. We have agreed to do this in

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1 other buildings. We do have electronic
2 signage in our buildings, and I think we can
3 accommodate advertisement of alternative mode
4 options in those fashions.

5 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. All right.

6 Those were the only, really, questions I had
7 at this point. Let me open it up. Any
8 questions, Commissioners? Commissioner
9 Turnbull.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Yes, Mr.
11 Chair. I just have a couple right now. I
12 think -- I do like I think the changes in the
13 architectural aspects. I think I have really
14 -- I have been dramatic, and I think they are
15 very worthwhile. I think the shifting from
16 the horizontal striping or the variations in
17 the terra cotta to the vertical ribbing really
18 makes a difference. I think it really makes
19 the building more dramatic, and I think it
20 really stands out.

21 My one question is that on several
22 of the perspectives it shows a variation in

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1 *the terra cotta, which probably comes with the*
2 *manufacturer. I'm just curious, from the --*
3 *how much control do you have over that? I*
4 *mean, do you have a pattern?*

5 *There is a chafing from light to*
6 *dark, and some of the elevations are very*
7 *convincing when you see it that way. But I'm*
8 *just wondering, when you actually go to build*
9 *it, how much control do you actually have over*
10 *that?*

11 *MR. LI: The process of getting*
12 *the right terra cotta piece is actually really*
13 *almost a custom manufacturing process. We*
14 *work very closely with the terra cotta*
15 *manufacturer to produce a color that is*
16 *appropriate, and we go through a number of*
17 *samples to get to that. But it does take a*
18 *bit of a process to get that, but there is a*
19 *definite color that we arrive at that can be*
20 *controlled once that formula --*

21 *COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: It looks*
22 *like you have allowed for a range on the*

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1 elevations. The perspectives show a range.

2 MR. LI: Well, interestingly
3 enough, if you look at the samples, the color
4 variation will actually come from the
5 different texturing on the panel itself.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: I see.

7 MR. LI: Rather than different
8 colors of terra cotta. So the same color
9 terra cotta can look very different depending
10 on how it is textured.

11 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: On the
12 ribbing.

13 MR. LI: That's correct.

14 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay. So
15 it's the light hitting it, which will change
16 it.

17 MR. LI: Right.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: But so you
19 are looking at a fairly more uniform color to
20 the terra cotta.

21 MR. LI: Yes. The color itself
22 will be fairly uniform throughout, and it's

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1 the texturing of the panel itself that will
2 make the difference in the look of the terra
3 cotta.

4 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay.
5 Thank you.

6 On the loading area, I'm assuming
7 that the 60-foot loading area on the street,
8 on 24th Street, is -- if it's not being used,
9 it's still restricted. You can't park there,
10 then, or --

11 MS. MILANOVICH: You can park
12 there during the hours that the loading is
13 restricted.

14 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay.

15 MS. MILANOVICH: But when loading
16 and deliveries are allowed, it will be signed
17 no parking during those hours.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: I gotcha.
19 Okay. And if I'm not mistaken, you are in
20 excess of the storming -- of the stormwater
21 requirement, I believe.

22 MR. AVITABILE: I believe so, but

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1 I don't want to speak to that, because I'm
2 just not --

3 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Yes, I was
4 just curious, but I thought I read that
5 somewhere you were exceeding the requirements.

6 MR. AVITABILE: We're meeting the
7 proposed EPA MS-4 requirement.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay. Mr.
9 Chair --

10 MR. AVITABILE: And that exceeds
11 D.C.'s current requirements.

12 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: That's
13 what I thought. I thought I read that.

14 Mr. Chair, those are my only
15 comments right now.

16 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Are there any
17 other questions? Commissioner May?

18 COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes. First
19 question I have is on the facade that we are
20 looking at right here, we have the facets
21 moving around in a fixed order, and then there
22 are these small bands that go between them,

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1 and they actually bridge across the facade and
2 there is a little gap.

3 But not every one of the units of
4 the glazing actually have those pieces
5 spanning across it, and I'm wondering if
6 what's -- is there a design idea behind that?
7 Because it's lost on me.

8 MR. LI: There is somewhat of a
9 rationale. If you look at the model, there
10 are openings in the floor, and so along that
11 wall in some locations there are actually two-
12 story openings. And where we have a two-story
13 opening, and, therefore, no floor at that
14 particular location, we have not run that band
15 across. And so the places where there is no
16 band corresponds to the places where there
17 actually is no floor at that level.

18 COMMISSIONER MAY: Does that give
19 you some benefit to the interior, not having
20 that, or is it just a way of marking it as a
21 double-height space?

22 MR. LI: It's partly a way of

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1 marking it as a double-height space. It's
2 part of the kind of design richness of the
3 concept to make it a little bit more varied,
4 and to somewhat demark the difference in the
5 -- in what is going on behind the facade.

6 COMMISSIONER MAY: Well, I have to
7 say that overall all of the moves that you
8 have made to improve the design since we saw
9 it at setdown I think have improved the
10 building. And, I mean, I would say
11 significantly that that would imply that it
12 was not so great to begin with. I think it
13 was pretty good to begin with, but it did I
14 think improve substantially. Put it that way.

15 And I particularly like the
16 treatment of the signage and how that is
17 incorporated now. And then, changing the
18 horizontal terra cotta to vertical, I think
19 that was the right move, and the treatment of
20 the cornice on all the facades actually I
21 think was good.

22 And I also think the renderings

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1 themselves got a little bit better, which
2 always helps, because it looked less -- it
3 looks less washed out. You've got some
4 sharpness to it, and -- because I -- and I
5 think that's the right look. I didn't -- you
6 know, I think there was a sharpness that was
7 missing in the previous renderings.

8 The one piece that still bothers
9 me are these missing spanning pieces, because
10 the notion that they indicate something on the
11 interior is not really understood from the
12 exterior. And so there isn't -- there isn't
13 an inherent rationale. It is not sort of
14 responding to something, and it almost looks
15 like there are just pieces that are missing.

16 When I looked at it, I kept
17 thinking, now, was that intentional or was it
18 just a mistake that somebody forgot to, you
19 know, copy those pieces over when they
20 designed the model in the computer? So I
21 think that may be something you want to give
22 another look at.

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1 *It's not really a big issue, but I*
2 *think that it kind of loses something. And*
3 *there is something about the continuity of the*
4 *facade and the curve that is actually*
5 *interrupted by that, so I think it's actually*
6 *doing some harm to the major idea for the sake*
7 *of, you know, adding more detail. And I think*
8 *it's a detail you probably don't need. I*
9 *think it actually kind of takes something*
10 *away.*

11 *But, again, that is not a big*
12 *issue, so I am -- I wouldn't insist on that.*

13 *I have a couple of questions about*
14 *the loading area. The first one is, how much*
15 *of a slope is there on 24th Street? Is that a*
16 *-- is it steep enough that you have to be*
17 *concerned about trucks pulling up and then*
18 *unloading themselves if they are -- if they've*
19 *got stuff inside that are on casters, as you*
20 *might have with a -- with catering events and*
21 *things like that?*

22 **MS. MILANOVICH:** *I don't know what*

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1 the exact grade is. My recollection from
2 being out there is that that's not an issue.
3 I don't know what the percent grade is.

4 COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes. It's an
5 operational thing that I think you need to be
6 careful of. I have personal experience in
7 this, having worked in a building where we did
8 a lot of loading off the street, and it was
9 13th Street and it was very steep. Well,
10 steep by Washington standards I guess.

11 And so we -- in order to unload
12 trucks, we actually pulled them up left wheels
13 to the curb, and you don't want to have that
14 here. So just be careful of that.

15 I also have the impression that
16 maybe it's steeper closer to K Street? Maybe
17 it levels out more? I don't know.

18 The second thing is the distance
19 from that loading area to the -- or the
20 loading door there to K Street means that the
21 -- that trucks could be parked very close to K
22 Street when they're there. And I'm not sure

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1 that -- whether that might cause a problem and
2 whether you might be smarter to push it
3 further south on the block on 24th.

4 MS. MILANOVICH: Yes. We have
5 actually pushed it back at DDOT's request. We
6 more than exceed their requirement. I think
7 we are about 65 feet from the intersection of
8 K Street to the front end of our loading zone.

9 COMMISSIONER MAY: And you are not
10 typically going to be unloading trucks beyond
11 -- that are bigger than 26 foot, something
12 like that?

13 MS. MILANOVICH: No. We're
14 anticipating trucks 30 foot, single-unit type
15 trucks.

16 COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes, okay.

17 MS. MILANOVICH: Yes, not large
18 trucks at all.

19 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. It just
20 seems -- it appears a little close when you
21 mark off that zone where trucks might park,
22 because I think that's showing a longer truck

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1 than 30 feet or what it would take up.

2 MS. MILANOVICH: The idea was to
3 have sufficient room to have a trash truck and
4 a delivery truck simultaneously in the event
5 that you might have that occur. So that if
6 there was a trash truck picking up the trash,
7 and a delivery happened to come at the same
8 time, they wouldn't have to double-park on the
9 street and block the street. So that's why
10 the 60 feet.

11 COMMISSIONER MAY: But in that
12 circumstance, you might wind up with a truck
13 pretty close to K Street.

14 MS. MILANOVICH: Well, it will be
15 -- it will be clearly delineated where the
16 loading zone is. So the furthest truck to the
17 north would never be more than I believe it's
18 65 feet, would --

19 COMMISSIONER MAY: The front end
20 of the truck furthest to the north would never
21 be more than 65 feet from K Street?

22 MS. MILANOVICH: Would never be

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1 closer than 65 feet to K Street.

2 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay.

3 MS. MILANOVICH: I can doublecheck
4 that and --

5 MR. AVITABILE: We will of course,
6 I'm sure, as we are going through the
7 permitting review continue to discuss this
8 with DDOT as well.

9 COMMISSIONER MAY: Right. And the
10 only reason I'm asking about it is that if it
11 -- if it necessitates pushing the door further
12 down the block, that is going to affect the
13 facade, and that is what I'm --

14 MR. AVITABILE: Right.

15 COMMISSIONER MAY: -- thinking
16 about in terms of the PUD.

17 The next thing I have is the
18 entrance to the building, did you say that --
19 did I hear correctly that it's opposite the
20 hospital entrance?

21 MR. LI: It is opposite the
22 hospital.

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1 COMMISSIONER MAY: But not a door.

2 MR. LI: Not a -- there is not an
3 entrance --

4 COMMISSIONER MAY: Good.

5 MR. LI: -- to the hospital there.

6 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. Good,
7 because I was concerned that we would have a
8 mid-block crossing issue.

9 All right. That's it. Thanks.

10 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I'm used to a
11 little longer questions.

12 COMMISSIONER MAY: Do you want me
13 to ask some more questions?

14 CHAIRMAN HOOD: No, not tonight,
15 but I'm used to it.

16 (Laughter.)

17 I also wanted to comment on the
18 West End Citizens Association. I asked this
19 at another campus plan proceeding. And I'm
20 looking here at their letter also and it says
21 -- I'm looking at all the bullet points.
22 "WECA is pleased, WECA is pleased, WECA is

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1 *pleased, WECA is pleased," so I'm glad to see*
2 *that it was -- the question I asked the other*
3 *night, and I'm not sure it was -- it probably*
4 *wasn't even this George Washington, but do we*
5 *feel like the community and colleges are*
6 *coming closer together?*

7 *And when I see this kind of stuff,*
8 *I see that there is hope. And I know Ms.*
9 *Kahlow and Ms. Maddox have been out here a*
10 *long time, because I have been out here some*
11 *of the time with them. They have been out*
12 *here much longer than I have been out here.*
13 *But to now starting to see letters come in*
14 *like that show that, again, like I said, there*
15 *is hope. I forgot which case I mentioned that*
16 *in, but it's good to see that.*

17 *Any other questions?*

18 *(No response.)*

19 *Okay. ANC?*

20 *MR. AVITABILE: Commissioner Hood,*
21 *I do want to just mention two comments about*
22 *the ANC report. You did ask whether we agreed*

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1 to everything in it, and I just wanted to make
2 clear, just for the record, two things that --

3 CHAIRMAN HOOD: So I made my
4 statement too quick, then.

5 MR. AVITABILE: No, no, no, no,
6 no, no.

7 (Laughter.)

8 No, I think you will find we are
9 in agreement. We just want to clarify where
10 we are in agreement. One, they had mentioned
11 in their report that the loading would be no
12 earlier than 9:00 a.m., and they were trying
13 to push us -- we had originally proposed it
14 going until midnight.

15 And what we agreed to do -- and
16 the ANC agreed to this -- was that we would
17 load no later than 10:00 p.m., so that was
18 what they asked for, but that was when we
19 asked them, would it be okay with you if we
20 had the loading in the morning between 7:00
21 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. for the catering and the
22 food service only, and the ANC said that that

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1 was acceptable.

2 The second item is they -- they I
3 guess asked us to do some things regarding
4 tree planting, and we had responded in our 20-
5 day submission, the one dated May 27th --
6 that's on page 5 -- we talked a little bit
7 about GW's partnership with Casey Trees, and
8 what they are doing to expand the tree canopy
9 and help with tree watering programs. So that
10 was our response to that issue. Just wanted
11 to make sure that was clear.

12 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay, great.

13 MR. AVITABILE: Thank you. Sorry.

14 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you for
15 clarifying the record. I appreciate it.

16 Okay. Any cross-examination?

17 Commissioner -- oh, I'm sorry.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: I just
19 want -- I think the report -- your report says
20 that you are putting in approximately 20 -- 20
21 new trees?

22 MR. LI: That's correct, 20 new

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1 *trees.*

2 *COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Twenty new*
3 *trees. Okay. Thank you.*

4 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Any other*
5 *questions?*

6 *(No response.)*

7 *Okay. Any cross examination from*
8 *Chairperson Coder?*

9 *(No response.)*

10 *Okay. Let's go to the Report of*
11 *the Office of Planning. Ms. Jackson.*

12 *MS. JACKSON: Good evening.*

13 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: I had to think,*
14 *because I'm used to cross-examination, so --*
15 *okay.*

16 *MS. JACKSON: Good evening, Chair,*
17 *members of the Board. For the record, my name*
18 *is Arlova Jackson with the Office of Planning.*

19 *I will be brief. I was only*
20 *planning to talk about the changes that were*
21 *made since setdown, but that has been done*
22 *already. So I will just state that the Office*

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1 of Planning finds that the applicant has
2 addressed and met the review criteria relevant
3 to the proposed development of the site,
4 including the review standards for planned
5 unit developments, the further processing
6 standards for university use as found in
7 Section 201, and the general special exception
8 criteria in Section 3104.

9 We are satisfied with the
10 submittals that were provided this evening in
11 response to the things we identified in our
12 report, and we would recommend approval of the
13 request and take any questions you have at
14 this time.

15 CHAIRMAN HOOD: All right. Thank
16 you, Ms. Jackson. I think the report, for me
17 -- and I'm sure my colleagues agree -- was
18 very well done, but let me see if we have any
19 questions. Any questions for the Office of
20 Planning?

21 (No response.)

22 Okay. Does the applicant have any

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1 *cross-examination of the Office of Planning?*

2 *MR. AVITABILE: No, we do not.*

3 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Chairperson Coder,*
4 *do you have any cross-examination of the*
5 *Office of Planning?*

6 *(No response.)*

7 *Okay. Then, okay, thank you.*
8 *Let's move on to report of other government*
9 *agencies. I think all of them have been*
10 *expounded upon. I won't repeat it. It's*
11 *clear and it's in the record.*

12 *Let's call the ANC up.*
13 *Commissioner Coder, are you going to do --*
14 *Chairperson Coder, are you going to do the*
15 *report for the ANC? Okay.*

16 *MS. CODER: Good evening, Chairman*
17 *Hood, and members of the Commission. I am*
18 *Rebecca Coder. I am the Chairperson for ANC-*
19 *2A representing Foggy Bottom and the West End.*

20 *I won't take too much time, because I believe*
21 *that the major themes that the ANC outlined in*
22 *our report have been addressed by the*

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1 *applicant.*

2 *We were pleased, as we said, to*
3 *see them focus on pedestrian safety, the*
4 *wideness of the sidewalks, addressing the*
5 *brick concerns that WECA had brought up, as*
6 *well as the segmented benches to deal with*
7 *loitering.*

8 *We continue to be pleased to see*
9 *them increase the amount of bicycle planning,*
10 *and we are happy to hear that they are open to*
11 *looking at bicycle safety. It is one of the*
12 *big concerns we hear from constituents. It is*
13 *great to see the popularity of bicycles*
14 *increasing in the city, but safety is a*
15 *concern for a number of people as far as*
16 *making sure people are educated properly.*

17 *The deliveries -- I think the*
18 *decision they made was very good, especially*
19 *for the people who live along 24th Street and*
20 *deal now with the number of deliveries at the*
21 *hospital. And given that this will have a*
22 *lesser amount as it relates to the street, I*

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1 think it was the right decision as how as how
2 they have addressed that.

3 The neighborhood is really
4 pleased, especially those who live across the
5 street, to see the commitment to the park and
6 to the very large oak tree that is on the
7 southern corner, and them protecting that as
8 well as adding the new trees. And we look
9 forward to them working on a construction
10 management plan.

11 It is always a theme, as you
12 mentioned earlier, as it relates to these --
13 and given that there are residences directly
14 to the west of the site, you know, we hope
15 that they will work with the neighbors to come
16 up with something that is agreeable to
17 everybody.

18 The one thing I did want to
19 mention -- it came up at our ANC meeting last
20 night -- is currently GW Hospital leases space
21 in the Warrick Building for its radiation
22 oncology unit. It has to find new space, and

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1 *it looked in the West End for that space.*

2 *Originally, the ANC thought that*
3 *this was in an office building, and what we*
4 *learned is it is actually in a residential*
5 *building. There are concerns around it moving*
6 *into that building.*

7 *We also noted that it appears,*
8 *because it is a CR zone, a hospital use is*
9 *considered a special exception, and they are*
10 *going to need to go before the Board of Zoning*
11 *Adjustment to receive that.*

12 *So I think our request to the*
13 *Zoning Commission and to the university is to*
14 *make sure they work with the hospital. If the*
15 *hospital decides to proceed with the location,*
16 *there is a timing issue I think as far as them*
17 *moving out of this Warrick Building and into*
18 *something else, given kind of what has*
19 *transpired at a neighborhood level related to*
20 *that.*

21 *So with that, that is kind of the*
22 *-- my report and where the ANC is on this. I*

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1 don't know if you have any questions for me.

2 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Let me just say
3 this, Chairperson. On your last -- Coder, on
4 your last point. I'm sure Mr. Barber and Ms.
5 Dwyer and them heard your statement, and if
6 there is an issue that is coming up before the
7 BZA, or an action that needs to be taken, I'm
8 sure they will deal with that accordingly.

9 Let's open it up. Any questions
10 for Chairperson Coder? Any questions?

11 (No response.)

12 MS. CODER: Okay.

13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Does the
14 applicant have any cross-examination?

15 MR. AVITABILE: No.

16 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Thank you
17 again.

18 MS. CODER: Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Appreciate it.
20 Okay. Let me go to organizations and persons
21 in support. I'm actually -- how many people
22 are here to testify in opposition? If you

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1 would just raise your hand. That's a first.

2 (Laughter.)

3 Yes, you can applaud. That's the
4 first time.

5 Okay. Let me -- I think what I
6 will do is just go by the list that I have
7 here, and hopefully I can get -- and Ms.
8 Schellin always helps me with the names. Dr.
9 Alan Greenberg, Dr. Robert -- I think it's
10 Burke, Burka -- Burke, Alex Dickman, Ms. Sara
11 Maddox, and Ms. Barbara Kahlow. And that's
12 five. So I think we -- well, let's see how
13 we're looking.

14 Okay. Melissa Perry, okay, and
15 Richard Livingstone. Oh, the students want to
16 come together? Okay. Let's do the -- okay.
17 So we will save Mr. Livingstone, and we will
18 call that panel up second.

19 Okay. What I will do is start to
20 my left, and let's go from my left to my
21 right, and we'll end up with Ms. Maddox. So
22 I'll start with you. And if you can just

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1 *identify yourself.*

2 *DR. PERRY: Hi. My name is*
3 *Melissa Perry. I'm a professor of*
4 *occupational and environmental health and*
5 *chair of the Department of Occupational and*
6 *Environmental Health at George Washington*
7 *School of Public Health and Health Services.*

8 *Thanks very much for giving me the*
9 *opportunity tonight to provide testimony. I*
10 *have recently come to GW. Prior to arriving*
11 *at GW, about six months ago, I was a professor*
12 *at the Harvard School of Public Health for 13*
13 *years in Boston.*

14 *I wanted to just give you some*
15 *perspective. I am also a resident of D.C. and*
16 *wanted to give you some perspective on having*
17 *been a professor in a School of Public Health*
18 *complex in which all departments and*
19 *educational functions were housed in the same*
20 *location.*

21 *Currently, my office is on M*
22 *Street. My laboratory is at Ross Hall at the*

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1 *School of Public Health and Health Services.*
2 *I can say that I am missing the opportunities*
3 *to interact with students and faculty and*
4 *staff in a casual and spontaneous way.*

5 *I can also say that I am extremely*
6 *enthusiastic about the plans for the building.*

7 *Not only is it going to invite more*
8 *connections and opportunities with community*
9 *interactions. I currently host research*
10 *seminars and presentations in my department*
11 *that can now be accessible within this new*
12 *School of Public Health Building to members of*
13 *the Foggy Bottom neighborhood.*

14 *But also, it is a very*
15 *environmentally sustainable and conscientious*
16 *building in terms of its plans, and that is*
17 *exactly the kind of department that I run, and*
18 *it is the sorts of values and missions of the*
19 *School of Public Health.*

20 *In terms of my research, I have a*
21 *laboratory that looks like the reproductive*
22 *health effects of environmental exposures, and*

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1 so I partner with George Washington Hospital
2 to evaluate impacts of environmental exposures
3 on sperm quality and reproductive problems.
4 And so we are actively involved in seeking to
5 improve the health of D.C. residents.

6 Our department is also partnering
7 with the Potomac River Keepers to evaluate
8 endocrine disruptors in the Potomac, and,
9 therefore, we are seeking ways to improve the
10 overall water quality and health of the
11 Potomac. These are just some examples of what
12 my department does, and the type of
13 integration that we offer, and extension of
14 communitarian interests for D.C. and for the
15 neighborhood of Foggy Bottom.

16 Thanks for the opportunity to
17 provide testimony.

18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you. Next?

19 DR. GREENBERG: Thank you,
20 gentlemen. My name is Alan Greenberg. I'm
21 the chair of the Department of Epidemiology
22 and Biostatistics, like my colleagues to the

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1 left and right, one of the seven academic
2 departments of the school, and it's a great
3 honor to be asked to give testimony tonight.

4 My first point is my perspective
5 as the chair. This is a remarkable
6 opportunity, a real dream come true for many
7 of us, to have a central home for more than
8 1,000 students and 100 faculty members who are
9 spread throughout the community who can now
10 come together in a single building.

11 We take great pride in being the
12 only School of Public Health in the nation's
13 capital. There are about 40 throughout the
14 United States. And having a recognizable and
15 strategically located building will greatly
16 enhance our school's visibility, our
17 reputation, our cohesiveness, and our
18 effectiveness.

19 The second of four perspectives is
20 that as a tenured professor of epidemiology
21 creating classrooms that would enable us to
22 enhance the educational experience of our many

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1 *students from around the District, the*
2 *country, and the world, and also enable our*
3 *faculty to offer a greater quantity and*
4 *quality of educational experiences in the*
5 *classroom.*

6 *Third, what I do for a living is*
7 *AIDS research. We have had a very close*
8 *partnership with the District of Columbia's*
9 *Department of Health for the last six years*
10 *you may be familiar with. And basically we*
11 *have dedicated our lives to improving the*
12 *lives of persons infected by, and at risk for,*
13 *HIV/AIDS in the District.*

14 *And having a new physical facility*
15 *to house our school would enable us to bring*
16 *together the numerous constituencies who are*
17 *central to the public health response, from*
18 *the community, from government, from academia,*
19 *and non-governmental organizations, and*
20 *convene them in a safe and neutral academic*
21 *environment.*

22 *We have a lot of meetings and*

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1 *bring people together from the community, but*
2 *we are offering -- we are pressed for office*
3 *space and for meeting space, and having this*
4 *incredible facility will really change public*
5 *health in the District.*

6 *Lastly, I am a former resident of*
7 *the Foggy Bottom neighborhood. I actually*
8 *lived as a -- when I was a GW medical student*
9 *in one of the little townhouses across the*
10 *street from the facade that you have been*
11 *discussing. And now, of course, I work in*
12 *Foggy Bottom on a daily basis, and I believe*
13 *that having -- I'm sorry, it's very emotional.*

14 *Having such a beautiful structure*
15 *for a school, it has such an altruistic*
16 *mission, will improve -- to improve the lives*
17 *of persons in Washington, D.C., would*
18 *contribute greatly to the neighborhood's*
19 *reputation as a natural -- as a national*
20 *center of positive thought and action to*
21 *improve humankind.*

22 *There are many other organizations*

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1 and institutions. There is the Kennedy
2 Center, the State Department, the medical
3 school, the hospital, and having a School of
4 Public Health would really help put Foggy
5 Bottom on the map as a national center of
6 thought, and I'm grateful for the opportunity
7 to present my testimony.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Thank you.

10 Next?

11 DR. BURKE: Good evening. My name
12 is Robert Burke, and thank you for the
13 opportunity to talk to you tonight. And I,
14 like my other colleagues, am a faculty member
15 at the School of Public Health and Health
16 Services at the George Washington University.

17 As part of my duties at GW, I work
18 closely as a manager, teacher, researcher,
19 with professionals and advocates who work for
20 the Veterans Administration as well as those
21 who work to improve hospital and nursing home
22 management, and professionals in the new,

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1 *emerging health information technology sector.*

2 *Much of my work includes meeting*
3 *with federal and public agencies, as well as*
4 *meeting with advocacy groups around the city.*

5 *As a university, GW is known as a neutral*
6 *convener of scholars, whose primary interest*
7 *is to better health care and health care*
8 *delivery to the residents of D.C. and the*
9 *country.*

10 *As many of you are aware, small,*
11 *convening space in D.C. is severely scarce and*
12 *limited. Quality convening space close to*
13 *Metro stops, bus routes, and major roads, are*
14 *even more rare.*

15 *The building on Square 39 will*
16 *address the need for convening spaces in the*
17 *following ways. The first floor of the*
18 *building will be an attractive convening*
19 *space. The proposed state-of-the-art building*
20 *will permit public health professionals a*
21 *place to meet, design new strategies, and meet*
22 *the ever-increasing needs of health of D.C.,*

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1 *the nation, and the world's public health.*

2 *Currently, my and my staff*
3 *officers are located in two buildings along K*
4 *Street. The building on Square 31 will bring*
5 *all my staff together in one location. The*
6 *campus -- excuse me, the location of the new*
7 *building will provide a new front door to the*
8 *Foggy Bottom campus.*

9 *I appreciate your commitment to*
10 *the future development of D.C., and I'm*
11 *assured that you will determine that building*
12 *-- this building will add to the future*
13 *sustainability of health care projects that*
14 *benefit the citizens of the District of*
15 *Columbia.*

16 *Thank you.*

17 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you. Next?*

18 *MS. DICKMAN: Thank you for having*
19 *us testify today for the new School of Public*
20 *Health Building. My name is Alex Dickman. I*
21 *work in the Department of Exercise Science in*
22 *the School of Public Health and Health*

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1 *Services.*

2 *We are one of three departments of*
3 *exercise science nationwide contained in a*
4 *School of Public Health. So we have kind of a*
5 *unique look at what public health has to*
6 *offer.*

7 *We are hopeful that the new*
8 *building will bring a lot more visibility to*
9 *our program, enabling us to recruit top*
10 *undergraduate and graduate students. We have*
11 *a very unique program that -- for our*
12 *undergraduates.*

13 *Most of our students go into*
14 *something medical-oriented, physical therapy,*
15 *PA, different areas, as well as wellness, and*
16 *they do a lot of internships out in the*
17 *community working at different agencies and*
18 *have a wide opportunity here in D.C. to help a*
19 *lot of nonprofits.*

20 *We also have a strong graduate*
21 *program for our MPH in physical activity in*
22 *public health programs where we are sending*

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1 *students out into the community to work with*
2 *physical activity programs, and wellness*
3 *programs, nutrition programs.*

4 *Not only would GW community*
5 *benefit from our expanded program and course*
6 *offerings in health and wellness, but the*
7 *community as a whole will benefit with our*
8 *outreach programs. Currently, we work at*
9 *Marian's Kitchen doing blood cultures and*
10 *glucose testing.*

11 *We do -- we work at a lot of the*
12 *area hospitals, sending our students out there*
13 *doing different projects and work there. Our*
14 *programs will add a new dimension to the*
15 *vibrant life at GW and Foggy Bottom.*

16 *And also, I am an alumni of GW. I*
17 *have my bachelor's and my master's degree*
18 *there. My husband has his bachelor's degree*
19 *from GW. Both of my daughters graduated from*
20 *GW as well as my son-in-law.*

21 *So we have a long history at GW,*
22 *and it is really wonderful to see all of the*

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1 *changes and the opportunities that just these*
2 *new buildings have brought. And I think GW*
3 *has really done a fantastic job making the*
4 *campus a community-based type of a campus.*

5 *Thank you very much.*

6 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you. Next?*
7 *Ms. Maddox, are you going next? Ms. Kahlow,*
8 *you are not going to testify?*

9 *MS. KAHLOW: I am.*

10 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: You're going to go*
11 *last. You are going to --*

12 *MS. KAHLOW: She is testifying for*
13 *the civic association. I am testifying as an*
14 *individual.*

15 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Oh, okay. Okay.*
16 *Ms. Maddox.*

17 *MS. MADDOX: Good evening,*
18 *Commissioners. I am Sarah Maddox. I am*
19 *testifying on behalf of the West End Citizens*
20 *Association, the oldest citizen's organization*
21 *in the Foggy Bottom/West End area.*

22 *One of the WECA's goals is*

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1 maintaining the quality of life for the
2 residential community in the Foggy Bottom/West
3 End area. On September 14, 2006, the
4 Commission granted WECA party status for the
5 George Washington Foggy Bottom campus plan
6 OMNIBUS planned unit development case. The
7 proposed Square 39 PUD is the third of the 16
8 development cases in the campus plan.

9 In accordance with your guidance
10 during a previous hearing, we are working
11 together. We are trying to work together --
12 thank you.

13 I will discuss four areas today --
14 the segmented benches, the sidewalks, the
15 loading dock, and loading hours. The bottom
16 line is that GWU showed sensitivity to the
17 immediately impacted community for this case.

18 WECA, as you noted, is pleased
19 that GWU agreed to the segmented benches as
20 requested by WECA for all 16 campus plan
21 development sites and is consistent with its
22 current Department of Transportation citywide

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1 *standard, especially for the pocket park at*
2 *the southern tip of the site.*

3 *WECA is disappointed that GWU will*
4 *not use the segmented benches elsewhere on the*
5 *square, and we hope they will have a change of*
6 *heart.*

7 *The WECA is pleased that GWU has*
8 *agreed to the non-brick sidewalks around the*
9 *heavily trafficked sidewalk along Washington*
10 *Circle, and bricks laid in concrete versus*
11 *sand for the other sidewalks. The WECA is*
12 *also pleased with the sidewalk widening. And*
13 *if you have driven through that area, you will*
14 *notice people sort of crouched up trying to*
15 *cross the street. This will make it a much*
16 *safer pedestrian crossing.*

17 *The WECA is pleased that GWU*
18 *eliminated its originally proposed loading*
19 *dock along 24th Street, which is across from*
20 *residential buildings with permanent*
21 *residents, which would have required trucks*
22 *backing up and blocking 24th Street from time*

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1 to time, with those annoying bing-bing-bing
2 sounds, which is terribly destroying the peace
3 and quiet of a neighborhood.

4 Lastly, WECA is pleased that GWU
5 limits its loading activity hours, as has been
6 previously testified to, and we look forward
7 to their keeping within their proffers.

8 Thank you kindly for your
9 consideration of WECA's views.

10 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you. Next?

11 MS. KAHLOW: Hi. Barbara Kahlow.

12 I'm testifying about a new development from
13 last night's Foggy Bottom/West End ANC-2A
14 meeting, which Rebecca Coder alluded to, and I
15 wanted to provide more information because it
16 is so important to residents.

17 Apparently, GW decided to move the
18 GWU Hospital radiation oncology center from
19 Square 39 where it has been to a mixed use CR-
20 zoned condominium building outside of the GW
21 campus plan area, first outside of the GW
22 campus plan area and into the West End.

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1 Remember, we were going to do
2 *buildup, not out. The building is in the*
3 *Metropolitan Condominium at 1230 23rd Street*
4 *and 1250 23rd Street. The condominium*
5 *residences are floors 5 through 9, and they*
6 *are deeply concerned about their health and*
7 *safety from the two 15-ton machines which*
8 *would be on floors 1 through 4.*

9 The zoning regulations require GW
10 *Hospital to apply for a special exception from*
11 *-- because of the -- from the BZA due to the*
12 *CR zoning. They have not yet done so.*
13 *Nonetheless, D.C. has issued some permits,*
14 *which the ANC asked for them to be revoked*
15 *because the zoning rules take precedent.*

16 The community would like GW to
17 *continue to house the sensitive equipment in*
18 *Square 39 or in another 100 percent commercial*
19 *building elsewhere, preferably within the*
20 *campus plan boundaries. Until this is*
21 *resolved, we ask -- the community asks that*
22 *you delay a final decision on Square 39.*

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1 *In all fairness, the counsel only*
2 *became aware of this tonight, since I was*
3 *unavailable today, and he is more than willing*
4 *to talk to us about it. But I think we -- GW*
5 *was unaware of what was going on, and this is*
6 *really important to the immediately affected*
7 *community.*

8 *As a P.S. to what Ms. Maddox said,*
9 *Mr. Hood, I want to congratulate you. It was*
10 *your initiative that got, I believe, GW to*
11 *make some concessions for the community in*
12 *your remarks in Square 55. And we are deeply*
13 *grateful for your pressure, because it is*
14 *helpful -- leadership, thank you, better term.*

15 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: You call it*
16 *pressure. I call it a suggestion.*

17 *MS. KAHLOW: Thank you.*

18 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Strong suggestion.*
19 *This issue that just came up, Ms. Kahlow --*
20 *and I'm trying to -- I really don't understand*
21 *it. I'm trying to figure it out, and I see my*
22 *colleague is looking in the regs, so maybe*

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1 *that's what he's looking for.*

2 *But could you explain to me, what*
3 *is happening here? The radiation is moving,*
4 *something is -- what is going on?*

5 *MS. KAHLOW: Square 39 is where*
6 *these radiation -- these huge equipment pieces*
7 *are now, the Warrick Building, which is what*
8 *tonight's hearing is about. They want to*
9 *raise that and build this School of Public*
10 *Health.*

11 *So you are looking around for some*
12 *space, and they found space which is unusual.*

13 *Most CR properties are not four floors*
14 *commercial, above it five floors residential.*

15 *When they found the space, they were unaware*
16 *of the zoning requirements, that when you are*
17 *in a mixed use CR period that hospital use in*
18 *a CR zone needs to have review by the BZA.*

19 *So the leasing agent didn't tell*
20 *them, they didn't know, and the city didn't*
21 *check it. So the residents hired a lawyer.*
22 *The lawyer informed the residents, and the*

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1 lawyer couldn't be here tonight because he had
2 another obligation and asked if we could
3 present the situation, so that you are aware
4 of what is going on. The residents are very
5 worried about their health, their safety, and
6 their property values.

7 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Ms.
8 Schellin, how many votes -- don't we have --
9 do we have two votes on this? Okay. All
10 right. Thank you. Wanted to know how we can
11 proceed.

12 Any other questions for this
13 panel? Anyone?

14 COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes. Are you
15 -- do you believe that this radiation unit,
16 whatever it is, is a hospital? Because it's
17 not a hospital.

18 MS. KAHLOW: No, it's part of the
19 hospital. It's -- the name of this thing is,
20 at least on the ANC agenda, it was called the
21 GW Hospital Radiation Oncology Center.

22 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. Well,

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1 that indicates an affiliation with a hospital,
2 but it's not an actual hospital.

3 MS. KAHLOW: That is correct.

4 COMMISSIONER MAY: And the zoning
5 regulations talk to a hospital or a clinic.
6 You might argue that it's a clinic use. I
7 don't know if it is or it isn't.

8 MS. KAHLOW: Yes, I think it's a
9 clinic use. But I --

10 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay.

11 MS. KAHLOW: -- am only presenting
12 this without full knowledge. I am just
13 telling you what I was told last night.

14 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. And you
15 haven't had a chance to discuss it with the
16 university at this point?

17 MS. KAHLOW: That is correct. At
18 least the attorney didn't even know about it
19 until tonight, and the university had some
20 different officials that weren't informed at
21 the hearing last night, and they -- at the
22 meeting with ANC, and they were uninformed.

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1 And they are more than willing to
2 sit down and trying to figure out what to do
3 with this, but meanwhile the solution will
4 probably be to move the equipment out of that
5 building somewhere else. So the question is:
6 what do you do in the middle? Because cancer
7 patients need help. So there may be a timing
8 issue here.

9 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. So, I
10 mean, it just sounds like it is a new issue
11 that hasn't been --

12 MS. KAHLOW: That's right.

13 COMMISSIONER MAY: -- resolved
14 yet.

15 MS. KAHLOW: That's right.

16 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay.

17 MS. KAHLOW: That's right.

18 COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes. I mean --

19 MS. KAHLOW: But it's relevant
20 since it is currently housed in that building.

21 COMMISSIONER MAY: I understand
22 the relevance of it. I was just questioning

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1 *the hospital use, because it didn't -- I mean,*
2 *what you are referring to as the hospital use,*
3 *it is not --*

4 *MS. KAHLOW: No.*

5 *COMMISSIONER MAY: -- doesn't*
6 *constitute a hospital.*

7 *MS. KAHLOW: No.*

8 *COMMISSIONER MAY: I don't know*
9 *whether it constitutes a clinic or not, but*
10 *I'm sure that the university's counsel and the*
11 *Zoning Administrator and the people who get*
12 *into the finer detail of things like that can*
13 *help us sort that out before final action.*

14 *MS. KAHLOW: Right. Thank you.*

15 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Any other*
16 *questions?*

17 *(No response.)*

18 *Okay. Does the applicant have any*
19 *cross-examination?*

20 *(No response.)*

21 *Okay. I want to thank you all for*
22 *-- oh, wait a minute. I'm sorry. Does the*

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1 *ANC have any cross-examination?*

2 *(No response.)*

3 *Okay. I want to thank you all for*
4 *your presentation. We greatly appreciate it.*

5 *Okay. Richard Livingstone, Liz*
6 *Borkowski -- and if I messed that up, forgive*
7 *me -- Meaghan Smith, Paul Berry, and it looks*
8 *like Jane Ward.*

9 *Okay. This is all I have on my*
10 *list to testify. Is there anyone else in the*
11 *room tonight that would like to testify?*

12 *Okay. This will be our last panel. I want to*
13 *start, again, to my left and go to the right.*

14 *MS. BORKOWSKI: Thank you for the*
15 *opportunity to testify tonight.*

16 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: I think it was on.*

17 *MS. BORKOWSKI: And now it's -- my*
18 *name is Liz Borkowski, and I am a master's of*
19 *public health student in GW's School of Public*
20 *Health in the Department of Health Policy.*

21 *As a D.C. resident for more than*
22 *10 years, I appreciate having a high quality*

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1 graduate program in the expanding and
2 important field of public health available to
3 me in a metro accessible location. Like many
4 of my fellow graduate students, I work full-
5 time and attend classes in the evenings.

6 Uniting the school's departments
7 into one building will strengthen
8 relationships between students and faculty
9 within and across departments, and increase
10 opportunities for insights and collaborations.

11 The building's many green features
12 will make it a point of pride for GW and the
13 neighborhood. With numerous bike racks and a
14 design that encourages taking the stairs
15 rather than the elevator, it will encourage
16 the public health goal of active living.

17 The School of Public Health
18 Building will benefit future students and
19 increase GW's contributions to the community.

20 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you. Next?

21 MR. LIVINGSTONE: Good evening,
22 Chairman Hood, and members of the Commission.

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1 My name is Richard Livingstone. This past
2 spring I had the opportunity to testify before
3 you on behalf of the Law Learning Center
4 Garage as well as the Science and Engineering
5 Hall. And I am here, once again, along with
6 eight of my fellow students, many of them from
7 GW's student-run organization Campaign GW.

8 Some may refer to us as zoning
9 groupies. I believe the more accurate --

10 (Laughter.)

11 -- term would be the 2007 Foggy
12 Bottom campus plan groupies, as we are here in
13 support of GWU's third project under that plan
14 -- the proposed building for the School of
15 Public Health and Health Services -- and we
16 are really happy that we could join you
17 tonight especially since we missed the last
18 Zoning Commission hearing for the amendment to
19 that plan due to finals.

20 I would like to add that many of
21 my colleagues would have liked to have been
22 here tonight, however, they are currently

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1 *running our freshman orientation program known*
2 *as Colonial Inauguration for the class of 2015*
3 *on campus.*

4 *Many more School of Public Health*
5 *students would have liked to have been here as*
6 *well, but due to their scheduling limitations*
7 *at their current facilities classes typically*
8 *take place in the evening, and they are unable*
9 *to be here. However, many of the students*
10 *have shown their support in the form of the 15*
11 *letters that were submitted last Tuesday, and*
12 *the addition of 35 letters that were submitted*
13 *tonight, for a total of 50 letters in support*
14 *of this project.*

15 *I could go on in a bunch of*
16 *reasons for why I support the approval of the*
17 *proposed building for the School of Public*
18 *Health and Health Services, but I will turn*
19 *the remainder of my time over to students from*
20 *that school in particular.*

21 *Thank you.*

22 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you. Next?*

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1 *Want to your mic on? There you go.*

2 *MS. SMITH: My name is Meaghan*
3 *Smith. I am currently a graduate student in*
4 *the School of Public Health and Health*
5 *Services pursuing a master's in public health*
6 *with a concentration in epidemiology. I also*
7 *completed my undergraduate education in the*
8 *school, where I graduated in 2010 with a*
9 *bachelor of science in public health.*

10 *As a student at GW, I have had the*
11 *opportunity to take advantage of our location*
12 *in the nation's capital by working and*
13 *volunteering in various organizations in the*
14 *public health sector. I have also had the*
15 *opportunity to conduct original research in*
16 *various departments across campus, working*
17 *alongside well-established professionals in*
18 *the field of public health.*

19 *When I first learned about the*
20 *proposed building of the new school at Square*
21 *39, I could not have been more excited. If I*
22 *had had the opportunity to be a student in the*

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1 *new proposed building, I know that it would*
2 *have had a significant impact on my growth and*
3 *development as a student and aspiring public*
4 *health professional.*

5 *By housing all seven academic*
6 *departments and programs under SPHHS, into one*
7 *building, the potential for collaboration*
8 *across departments will improve, and will*
9 *ultimately extend to the various public health*
10 *organizations throughout the District, better*
11 *preparing students to take on the challenges*
12 *facing health care today.*

13 *In addition, providing students*
14 *and faculty with a central location to learn*
15 *and conduct research will promote the mission*
16 *of SPHHS to advance the health of our local,*
17 *national, and global communities. Words*
18 *cannot truly convey how much I have*
19 *appreciated my education at GW, especially*
20 *within the School of Public Health.*

21 *SPHHS has become my home. It has*
22 *fostered my desire to help and serve others,*

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1 *and I recognize the tremendous amount of*
2 *potential for the advancement of the school*
3 *with the proposed building plans. Your*
4 *commitment to the District of Columbia does*
5 *not go unnoticed, and I thank you for your*
6 *time and consideration regarding the*
7 *construction of this new building.*

8 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you. Next?*

9 *MR. BERRY: Good evening,*
10 *Commissioners. My name is Paul Berry, Jr.*
11 *I'm an exercise science master's degree*
12 *candidate in the School of Public Health.*
13 *During my time here or at GW, I have received*
14 *many opportunities that I could not image two*
15 *years ago. And because of this, I am here*
16 *today in support of the School's proposed*
17 *building that will allow students to continue*
18 *to meet, learn, and to grow into the*
19 *professionals they will some day become.*

20 *The new building will include*
21 *monitoring labs for teaching and research, and*
22 *will be in a centralized location. It will*

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1 also fulfill the students' needs of continued
2 access to the library, wellness center, and
3 computer labs, once again, providing a
4 centralized location for the department.

5 I urge you to consider supporting
6 the construction of a new School of Public
7 Health Building, which will contain facilities
8 for the Department of Exercise Science. I
9 thank you for your time and consideration.

10 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you. Next?

11 MS. WARD: Good evening. My name
12 is Jane Ward, and I thank you for the
13 opportunity to testify. I am a graduate
14 student in the School of Public Health and
15 Health Sciences. I am in the new track that
16 Alex Dickman referred to, which is the
17 physical activity and public health track.
18 And I specifically chose the School of Public
19 Health because I'm a D.C. resident and I
20 wanted to be able to actively commute to
21 school.

22 I live in the neighborhood near

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1 *the Mount Vernon campus, and I would have to*
2 *say that, in my opinion, my neighbors are very*
3 *pleased to have that part of the campus in the*
4 *neighborhood. And it has enhanced our*
5 *neighborhood, and I think enhanced our*
6 *property values to be adjacent to a portion of*
7 *this university.*

8 *I would echo what my colleagues*
9 *and faculty have said in terms of it being*
10 *really thrilling and exciting to look forward*
11 *to a very green and sustainable building to*
12 *blend the George Washington campus into the*
13 *adjacent neighborhood and allow the*
14 *neighborhood to share the park and the*
15 *pedestrian-friendly, pedestrian-safe, and*
16 *bicycling-friendly aspects of this building as*
17 *well as to bring the community into an*
18 *opportunity to learn and discuss and*
19 *investigate new approaches to public health*
20 *and community health by being part of the*
21 *university.*

22 *I think that the community around*

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1 *Mount Vernon definitely takes advantage of the*
2 *offerings that GW extends to that community.*

3 *My husband and I are both Air*
4 *Force physicians. We completed careers in the*
5 *Air Force, and I was offered the opportunity*
6 *to get an MPH in Bethesda. At that school, it*
7 *is completely tuition-free for everybody, and*
8 *I elected to come here to George Washington to*
9 *become more integrated into the D.C. community*
10 *and to take advantage of the public policy*
11 *offerings that are very different on this*
12 *campus compared to the Bethesda campus, which*
13 *is oriented towards military public health.*

14 *So thanks for your consideration*
15 *of our building. I think it will be a*
16 *tremendous addition to the D.C. community.*

17 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you.*
18 *Commissioners, any questions of this panel?*
19 *Commissioner May?*

20 *COMMISSIONER MAY: No. I just*
21 *want to say that I do appreciate the -- sorry,*
22 *the 2007 campus -- GW campus plan groupies*

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1 making their appearance today. I also
2 appreciate the thought of trying to get us
3 some testimony in advance. Unfortunately, I
4 didn't actually receive anything in advance.
5 I'm not sure exactly what happened, but
6 somehow it didn't happen. But I appreciate
7 the thought.

8 Some of it was here when I got
9 here, so I got to read a little bit before I
10 came out. But anyway -- and of course I
11 appreciate hearing the input of the students
12 and everyone who takes the trouble to come
13 down and testify. But thank you very much.

14 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Any other
15 questions, comments?

16 (No response.)

17 Okay. Cross-examination, Mr. --
18 okay. Applicant? ANC?

19 (No response.)

20 I, too, want to associate myself
21 with the comments of Commissioner May, and we
22 appreciate your coming down to testify.

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1 *Thank you.*

2 *Zoning groupies, huh?*

3 *(Laughter.)*

4 *Campus plan. I'm sorry. Campus*
5 *plan. I thought he said zoning. Okay.*

6 *COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: We're not*
7 *going to get zoning groupies. We'll never get*
8 *zoning groupies.*

9 *(Laughter.)*

10 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Well,*
11 *wishful thinking.*

12 *(Laughter.)*

13 *Okay. All right. Okay. Mr.*
14 *Avitabile, do you want to come back? I don't*
15 *know if we have any rebuttal, maybe on the*
16 *issue that the Chairperson of ANC-2A and Ms.*
17 *Kahlow mentioned.*

18 *If not, I would like -- I will*
19 *tell you that, before you start, I would like*
20 *to see something, how that has been addressed*
21 *before we do -- I shouldn't say that we are*
22 *going to do a bench decision, but before*

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1 *final, even though -- I would just like to see*
2 *how that has been handled and taken care of.*
3 *But anyway, let me let you go ahead.*

4 *MR. AVITABILE: Okay. I was just*
5 *going to make just a couple of points, because*
6 *I literally learned about this as I walked in*
7 *the door tonight. So this is all I know.*

8 *The hospital is a separately*
9 *managed entity. Notwithstanding, the*
10 *university will work with the hospital to*
11 *address the issue. I did want to state for*
12 *the record -- and, again, without having had a*
13 *chance to really learn anything more than what*
14 *I'm hearing tonight, but as a legal matter I*
15 *am not sure -- I don't -- that relocation of*
16 *this use to another building, if it is a*
17 *matter of right use in that building, I'm not*
18 *sure that that is actually germane to the*
19 *decision regarding the PUD and the further*
20 *processing.*

21 *But that said, of course, we will*
22 *still work with the hospital to address the*

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1 *issue and see what happens. But I just wanted*
2 *to say that. That's our only statement on*
3 *that point.*

4 *I do -- the other thing in terms*
5 *of before final action, we would continue to*
6 *explore -- I think Commissioner May had raised*
7 *the issue about the banding on the facade, and*
8 *we would continue to explore that prior to*
9 *final action, if you want us to.*

10 *COMMISSIONER MAY: I don't think I*
11 *need to see anything different. I mean, it*
12 *was just an architectural --*

13 *MR. AVITABILE: Okay.*

14 *COMMISSIONER MAY: -- comment, and*
15 *the architect can take it for what it's worth.*

16 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: And let me say*
17 *this Mr. Avitabile. The way I understand it*
18 *is the action -- if we take action, whenever*
19 *we take action, it is going to impact that*
20 *square, Square 39, and that use is going to*
21 *move somewhere else. So I think at least the*
22 *way -- that's the way I'm understanding it.*

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1 *That's why, I don't know, maybe to some point*
2 *it is germane.*

3 *MR. AVITABILE: Okay.*

4 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: So we just need to*
5 *find out before we get to final. You know, we*
6 *may not always agree, but if it's not germane,*
7 *I will take it back. But right now let's look*
8 *into it.*

9 *MR. AVITABILE: Okay.*

10 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay? And we will*
11 *be looking for that in final. I think, my*
12 *colleagues, would you -- am I by myself to*
13 *want to see it? Because if I am, then --*

14 *COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: No, I*
15 *think it's an issue that is worth pursuing. I*
16 *think that the community has a great interest*
17 *in it, and I think before we ever take final*
18 *action we want to know how this is going to*
19 *resolve, or be resolved I should say.*

20 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Yes. And we're*
21 *all holding hands right now, so let's keep our*
22 *hands together.*

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1 *(Laughter.)*

2 MR. AVITABILE: *I could not agree*
3 *with you more on that front.*

4 CHAIRMAN HOOD: *Okay. All right.*
5 *Anything else, Mr. Avitabile?*

6 MR. AVITABILE: *No, sir.*

7 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: *Mr. Chair,*
8 *other than the action we were talking about*
9 *just previously, I would like to make a motion*
10 *that we approve public hearing -- Zoning Case*
11 *Number 06-11/06-12C, George Washington*
12 *University second-stage PUD and further*
13 *processing at Lot 803, Square 39, the School*
14 *of Public Health and Health Studies, and ask*
15 *for a second.*

16 COMMISSIONER MAY: *Second.*

17 CHAIRMAN HOOD: *Okay. It has been*
18 *moved and properly seconded. Any further*
19 *discussion?*

20 *(No response.)*

21 *Are you ready for the question?*

22 *All those in favor, aye.*

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1 *(Chorus of ayes.)*

2 *Not hearing any opposition, Ms.*
3 *Schellin, would you please record the vote?*

4 *MS. SCHELLIN: Yes. Staff records*
5 *the vote three to zero to two to approve*
6 *proposed action Zoning Commission Case Number*
7 *06-11C/06-12C, Commissioner Turnbull moving,*
8 *Commissioner May seconding, Commissioner Hood*
9 *in support, Commissioners Selfridge and*
10 *Schlater not present, not voting.*

11 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Ms.*
12 *Schellin, do we have anything else before us*
13 *tonight?*

14 *MS. SCHELLIN: No. I would just*
15 *like to give a date for the response from the*
16 *applicant, and also a date for proposed*
17 *findings of facts, conclusions of law. If we*
18 *could have those by July 11th, and we will*
19 *consider this for final action July 25th.*
20 *Okay?*

21 *CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Do we have*
22 *anything else before us?*

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MS. SCHELLIN: That's it.

CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. I want to thank everyone for their participation in this hearing tonight, and this hearing is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 8:02 p.m., the proceedings in the foregoing matter were adjourned.)

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