

GU'S CAMPUS PLAN IS A THREAT TO OUR AREA. WHY YOU SHOULD CARE:

1. Georgetown University's proposed "loop road" along the rim of Glover Archbold Park would be almost in our backyard, and would be the route for hundreds of buses a day.

The road is intended as a new primary route for all GU GUTS buses. We can expect to see and hear a bus every couple of minutes during peak periods if it is approved. It would surely be visible, and the traffic audible, from 44th Street and throughout Glover Archbold Park south of Reservoir Road, changing the character of the park significantly and permanently.

If built, all GU buses exiting the campus would need to turn left onto Canal Road. This would be a major traffic issue, especially combined with rapidly increasing commuter traffic between the Key Bridge and the Homeland Security campus on Nebraska Avenue. We'd see serious traffic snarls backing onto Foxhall and Canal, and negative impacts on our own car and bus commutes.

The loop road is "our" issue because it would have by far the biggest impact on us; while they oppose it, the loop road is simply not a critical issue for other groups opposed to GU's campus plan.

2. The "loop road" may be the proverbial camel's nose into the tent for expanded construction and development of the west side of the GU campus.

The University's justification for the loop road—that there is no place on its campus where its buses can turn around(!)—makes us question the long-term purpose of the road and development plans for the west side of GU's campus, which is currently mostly low-rise athletic facilities. Detailed plans for a 500,000-square-foot expansion to the hospital are yet to be disclosed. While we understand interest in keeping Georgetown's Medstar Hospital competitive, the siting, size, and transportation and construction access for that project could have serious impacts on our area, short-term and permanently.

3. Not last and not least: Georgetown University's proposal contradicts the terms of its relatively recent scenic easement agreement with the National Park Service! Continued on page 3

Come to the March 16 FCCA General Meeting to talk with Councilmember Mary Cheh about Georgetown University's 2010-2020 Campus Plan, which has been submitted to the DC Zoning Commission for review

GU invited Councilmember Cheh to meet with them on Jan. 31. The meeting included Mary Cheh, Drew Newman from her office, representatives from GU, ANC representatives including Ann Haas, and and FCCA Board Chair Bob Avery.

March 16 is OUR chance to communicate our thoughts on our big neighbor to the east's development plans and how we think they will impact us—the Loop Road and Kehoe Field roof, traffic on Canal Road, as well as proposed increases in student caps. It is essential that Ms. Cheh now hear and understand our objections to key aspects of the plan. Her support—or lack thereof— for our position is key to our success with the Zoning Commission.

FCCA members voted in 2010 to empower the Board to oppose the plan and act on their behalf. We will be voting again on the 16th as we prepare for the Zoning Commission hearings.

Newsletter
of the Foxhall
Community
Citizens
Association

www.foxhall.org

CALENDAR

**GENERAL MEETING
Discuss Georgetown
University's 10-Year
Plan with our DC Ward 3
Councilmember Mary Cheh
(Rescheduled from Feb.)
And voting on the plan.**

**Wed., March 16 at 7 PM
Hardy Rec Center
4500 Q Street NW**

Call Bob Avery to arrange
a ride for you, if needed!



FCCA Administrative Board

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338-3834
ravery@starpower.net

Jessie Kane, Secretary

333-2788
jmkane87@aol.com

Hulit Pressley Taylor, Treasurer

625-0203
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FCCA Board Members

When possible, please contact the appropriate FCCA Board Member directly to discuss issues and concerns—Focus Areas are listed after the board member's name. General issues can go to Bob Avery, the Board President.

Bob Avery, Policing Liaison & Crime

338-3834, ravery@starpower.net

John Bray, Membership and GU Loop Road Liaison

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Peter Van Allen, Schools Liaison

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Karen Volker

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Coming BZA Meetings

Share comments and concerns so they can be aired at the Board of Zoning meetings, public meetings that institutions are required to schedule with local communities according to their agreements with the BZA. If you can't attend but would like to have your issues discussed, email or call the FCCA schools liaison and Ann Haas. **Georgetown Day:** 6:30 p.m. on Tues., May 10 at Q and MacArthur.

Lab School: 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at Foxhall & Q.

ANC3D: Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Sibley Hospital. 2011 meetings are scheduled for April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, September 7, October 5, November 2, and December 7.

April Foxhall News Newsletter Submissions

Send items for the next newsletter, which is now planned for early April to the editor at tlam.foster@gmail.com by March 31. Given the GU situation, it is possible that the schedule will change. Generally submissions should be under 300 words, but longer pieces may run by advance arrangement.

FCCA Yard Sale 2011! Helper Needed

Have items you'd like to sell? Thinking about a Yard Sale? For many years, the FCCA has organized a community yard sale. Residents "rent" space for a very nominal fee and the FCCA handles advertising and publicity. It's a great social event, as well as being profitable for the sellers.

We'd like to sponsor the Annual Yard Sale again this year, but we need at least one other person to help coordinate the event. We have a good list of what needs to be done and samples of flyers/advertisements used in the past—we just need helpers. Interested? Contact Jeannette Rivera at [202-333-7675](mailto:jgrivera@aol.com) or jgrivera@aol.com

Palisades Library Book Sale on March 26—most books priced between 10¢ and \$1!

After a year's worth of book contributions from neighbors and friends, the Friends of the Palisades Library will host its annual book sale on Saturday March 26 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Library, located at MacArthur Boulevard and V Street, N.W.

There are thousands of books available that cover almost every topic for every age group. The books are donated throughout the year by neighbors, friends, estate sales, and various organizations. This is an excellent chance to stock up for your summer reading or to find that classic or fiction book you always wanted to read. Most books are priced between a dime and a dollar; the low prices help to promote one of the organization's goals of encouraging the consumption of the written word in our neighborhood. The funds raised from the annual sale are used to support special programs and materials at your library.

Please renew your FCCA membership (if you haven't already) so you can vote at the important March meeting!

We have really important issues that we are working on — on your behalf. Please do your part by filling out the 2011 membership form and bringing it to the March meeting or mailing it in ahead of time. Thank you.

Pencil it in: April Spring Fling and Hardy Clean Up Day

Dates to be announced in the April Newsletter but tentatively planned for mid- to late April.

Cont'd from page 1 Georgetown University's 2010 campus plan violates the spirit of the scenic easement through which GU obtained land on Canal Road from the NPS to enlarge the campus entrance there. GU granted the NPS "an exclusive and perpetual open-space, scenic easement over and the right in perpetuity to restrict the use of the property," 2.5 acres of University land on a steep slope overlooking Glover Archbold Park between Canal and Reservoir Roads. GU agreed any road along the easement would *not* connect the north and south ends of the campus; to gate and limit access to such road; and to use any such road for service vehicles only.

The 2010 campus plan contends that GUTS buses are "service vehicles"—the phrase usually means maintenance and trash removal vehicles; transit is usually not included. Furthermore, the 10-year plan shows the loop road uniting both end points on campus. The plan says the road will be gated, but that's a specious concession in light of the above.

According to the 2007 environmental assessment for the project to stabilize the slope, the purpose of the scenic easement is to ensure that the Park retains its wooded quality. "The protected trees comprise a vegetative screen that serves to shield University buildings and operational facilities from the view of visitors using the Foundry Branch Trail..." The slope is steep and fragile. It has failed more than once, causing the road and debris to slide into the Park. The most recent landslide was in 2009, resulting in sediment and storm water runoff into the Park and Foundry Branch, a stream that flows into the Potomac River. Details for making the road stable for much larger, heavier, and more frequent use are unclear, but how it could be done without a major construction project inches from the scenic easement is a mystery.

You might ask: "Shouldn't the National Park Service be taking the lead in this fight? Why do we have to do it?" Answer: National Park Service resources are limited; they have to pick the fights they devote their shrinking resources to. Though we hope that they will put adequate resources towards this one, we can't bank on it. And Georgetown University is powerful with lots of friends in high places who can pull strings. We, however, are voters and residents—and we should be madder than heck about this.

4. More Issues with the 10-Year Plan

GU's proposed plan has other elements that many of us who have scrutinized the plan object to, including increasing the number of students without adding on-campus housing, a roof over Kehoe Field, and more. Not to diminish those issues, but the FCCA Board sees that other community associations are focused on those issues but largely ignoring the aspect of the plan that will most impact our area: the loop road. That is why we are focusing our efforts on this piece of the plan.

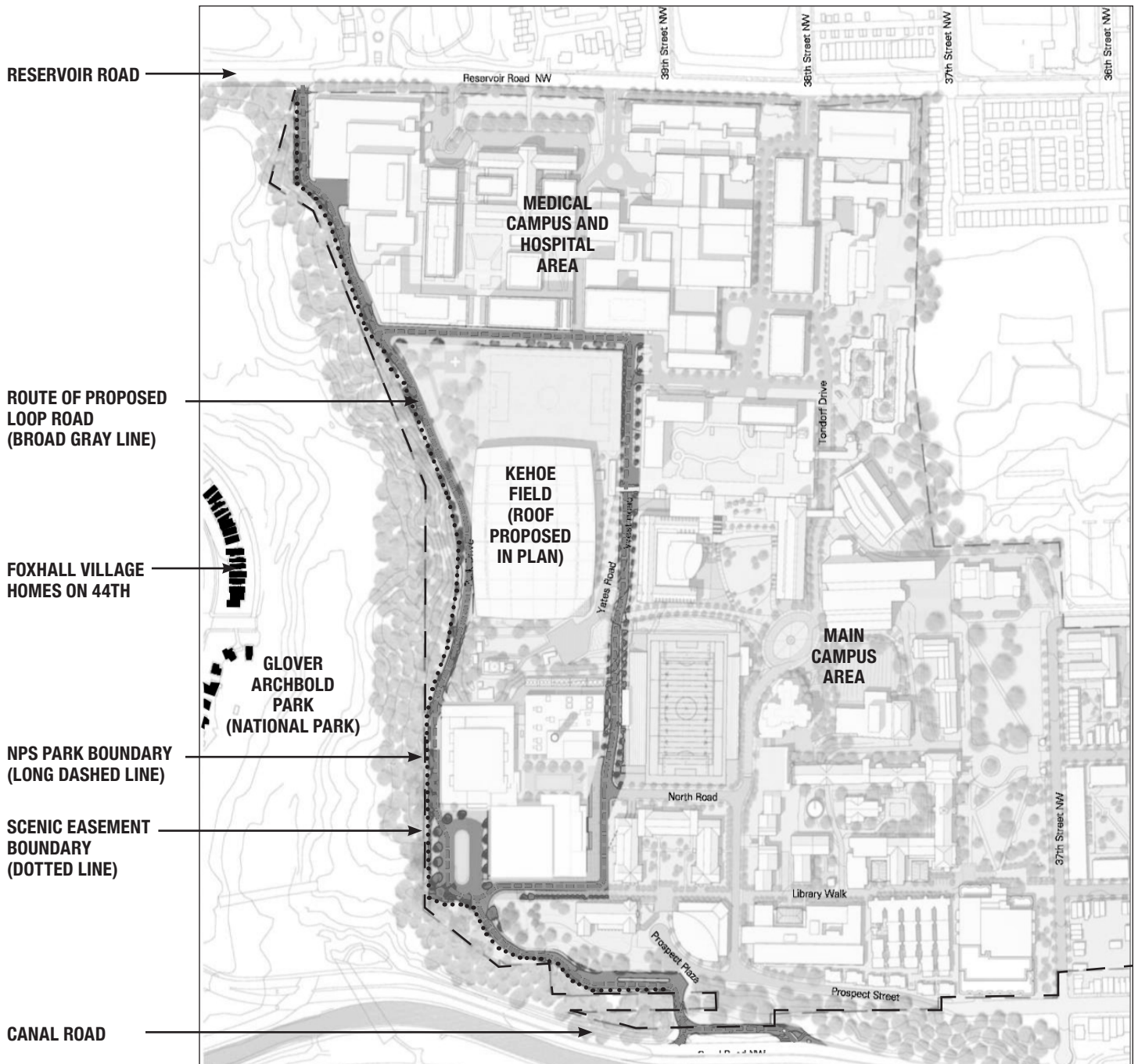
Breaking News: Mary Cheh expresses doubts on GU's Campus Plan, and Commissioners for ANC3D (our area) and ANC2E voted almost unanimously to oppose it!

What initially seemed to FCCA Board members like it might be a Quixotic battle seems to have turned a corner! ANC Commissioners met recently to review GU's plan and voted to oppose it, with just one dissenting vote. This after Councilmember Mary Cheh expressed her concerns in a letter to ANC3D and GU about three major aspects of the plan—the loop road, the Kehoe roof, and increases in numbers of students. The documents can be read at www.foxhall.org under Current Topics and Issues. We feel that our efforts are beginning to bear fruit.

Now is not the time to relax. We need to increase awareness of the issue and let people know what we think in advance of Zoning Commission hearings. The Zoning Commission has voted contrary to ANC recommendations on similar issues many times in the past. The FCCA has recently registered for Party Status, which will allow us to testify at the hearings. We need to make it hard for the Commission to ignore us. Help amplify our voices: Get involved.



- **Show up at the 7 PM Wed., March 16 meeting at Hardy and share your concerns with Mary Cheh. She seems to support us and we need to show her that this is an issue we care about.**
- **Sign up to get a free yard sign (above), which will be available at the April meeting.**
- **Check out the route of the proposed road. See page 4. For more details go to www.foxhall.org and click on Current Issues and Topics page.**
- **Volunteer with GU Road Liaison John Bray 337-4115, jlbray@verizon.net to help distribute yard signs and talk to neighbors.**



Membership Form for the 2011 Calendar Year

To vote at meetings, members must reside within FCCA area, be present, and be over 18 years of age. Memberships are for the calendar year. Please make checks out to the Foxhall Community Citizens Association. Send to FCCA/Hulit Taylor at 1713 Surrey Lane NW, Washington, DC 20007 or bring to a meeting!

“Booster” Memberships

- \$250 Patron (up to two votes)
- \$100 Advocate (up to two votes)
- \$50 Sponsor (up to two votes)
- Donation \$

Standard Memberships

- \$25 Household (up to two votes)
- \$15 Senior household (up to two votes)
- \$25 Non-Resident (no votes)

Names (LAST, First, as you wish listing to appear—neatness counts. Example: DOE, Jane & John Smith)



Complete Mailing Address

Home Phone

Email address for FCCA updates—our list is *never* shared.