

## School Without Walls Partnership District of Columbia Public Schools and The George Washington University

**ZONING COMMISSION HEARING – October 30, 2006** 



DMJM | CGS



# **Maureen Dwyer**

# Partner Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman



- The PUD process is designed to encourage high quality developments that provide significant public benefits
- Benefits of this project include:
  - Renovation and modernization of the Grant School building, home of the School Without Walls
  - Enhanced programmatic collaboration
  - Historically sensitive modernization and addition to SWW
  - Implementation of streetscape improvements
  - Implementation of sustainable design principles
  - Additional on-campus student housing



- The overall goal of the PUD process is to permit flexibility of development and other incentives such as increased building height and density
  - We are not requesting additional density or height
    - 90' height
    - 5.29 FAR (less than the 6.0 matter of right or 6.5 PUD density)
  - We are requesting other types flexibility
    - Lot coverage, rear yard, closed court, penthouse setback and residential recreation space
- The end result is a project that carries out historic preservation and campus planning goals with significant public benefits and amenities



- Appropriateness of the SP-2 Zoning
  - Consistent with the current campus zoning and surrounding area
  - Consistent with the comprehensive plan
  - Consistent with the 1938 Zoning Act
  - Consistent with the intent of the SP District, which is a buffer zone "that contains a mix of row houses, apartments, office and institutions at a medium to high density including buildings of historic and architectural merit"
- The value in this development partnership is created through the rezoning
  - Allows GW to pay DCPS approximately \$12 million for the purchase of the parking lot and unused density rights generated through the joint PUD and rezoning



- Consistent with Planning Initiatives of Both Institutions
  - Consistent with DCPS' Master Facilities Plan and represents more than a decade of planning
  - Consistent with GW's current 2000 Campus Plan which specifically identifies the site for student housing
  - Consistent with the proposed Campus Plan pending before the Commission which describes the project's height, density and proposed use
    - The square footage requested is included in the overall square footage outlined in the Campus PUD
    - The beds and parking provided through this development are included in the University's proposed Campus Plan projections



### **Fact and Expert Witnesses**

- Thomas Brady, Chief Business Operations Officer, DC Public Schools
- Sheila Mills Harris, Educational Task Force Consultant and immediate past principal of School Without Walls
- Sean O'Donnell, Associate Principal, Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kuhn Architects (DCPS Architect Team)
- Chris Graae, Principal, DMJM|CGS (GW Architect Team)
- Andi Adams, Architectural Historian, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman
- Jami Milanovich, Senior Associate, Wells & Associates
- Louis Katz, Executive Vice President and Treasurer, The George Washington University



# **Thomas Brady**

## Chief Business Operations Officer District of Columbia Public Schools



## **The School Without Walls**

- School Without Walls (SWW) is a non-traditional public high school which aims to use the District's resources to give students a richer and more fulfilling education
- Existing facilities are inadequate for the delivery of state-of-the-art education
  - Facility lacks sufficient space per student, assembly facilities and technology infrastructure
  - Building is deteriorated & in need of extensive repairs



### **The Public/Private Partnership**

- Public Private Partnership between DCPS & GW will facilitate the modernization and expansion of the School Without Walls
- MOU expands the programmatic partnership and establishes the development partnership
  - Sale of small parcel of DCPS land on F Street (the SWW back parking lot) to GW
  - GW will pay approximately \$12 million to DCPS for the land and development rights that result from the PUD
  - DCPS will use this funding, as well as additional DCPS funds, for the modernization and expansion of the Grant School
  - GW will construct an undergraduate student residence hall on F Street
- The project and partnership have been widely endorsed by various agencies and regulatory bodies



## **Systemic Impact**

- This partnership takes several steps toward achieving the goals set forth in the Master Education Plan and the Master Facilities Plan
  - Transforming high schools into state-of-the-art learning environments that support a rigorous curriculum
  - Identifying public private development projects (PPDPs) that gain DCPS valuable facilities improvements
  - Building on our community assets
    - Enhances partnership with The George Washington University
- Resources
  - This alternative financing resource provides supplemental funding and supplants currently anticipated funding
  - DCPS will reallocate exiting funds to other high priority projects



### **Transparent Process**

- Planning for this project has been a collaborative and transparent process incorporating input from a variety of stakeholders
  - DCPS/SWW Stakeholders
    - Home School Association
    - Students, Faculty & Staff of SWW
  - Community Stakeholders
    - Open Community Meeting held on April 3, 2006
      - Provided information to interested community members on the DCPS and GW portions of the project



# **Sheila Mills Harris**

## Consultant, Educational Task Force Immediate Past Principal – SWW



## **School Without Walls Partnership**

## • The School Without Walls

- Educational Philosophy
  - Humanities-based curriculum
  - Using the District's resources to enhance the quality of education for SWW students
    - Internship programs
    - Adjunct faculty from local universities, including GW
- Collaboration between SWW & GW
  - Programmatic partnership since 1980
    - Facilities Sharing
    - GW Course Opportunities for SWW students and faculty
    - Educational and Teaching Collaborations



### **School Without Walls Partnership**

- In addition to the development partnership, the programmatic partnership between GW & SWW is enhanced through the new agreement
  - Establishment of the Educational Taskforce to enhance collaboration and programmatic relationship between GW & SWW
    - Aims to establish a framework for the integration of education from elementary to middle school to high school and into the university environment
  - Status of Taskforce Planning
    - Regular committee meetings in the areas of curriculum, professional development and technology
    - Effort at creating "seamless education"

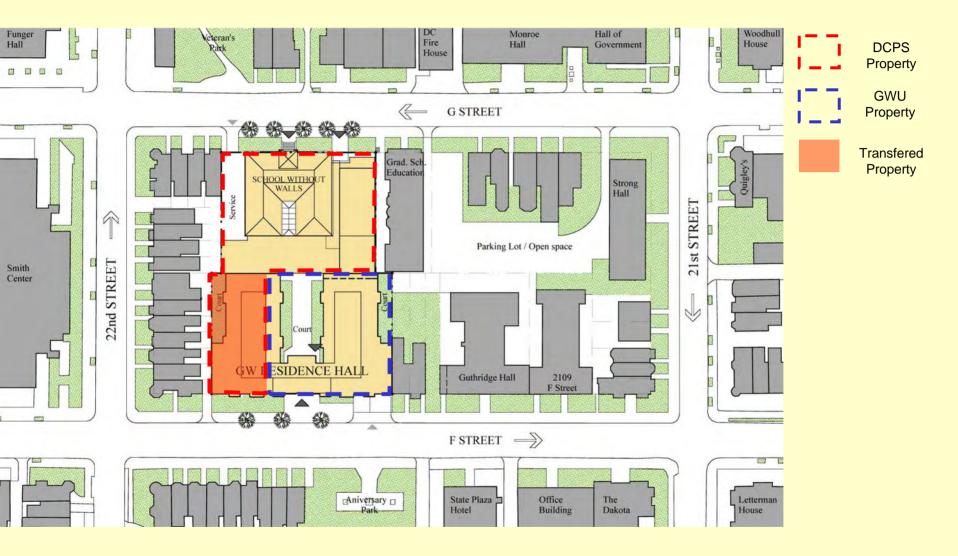


# Sean O'Donnell

## Associate Principal Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kuhn Archcitects

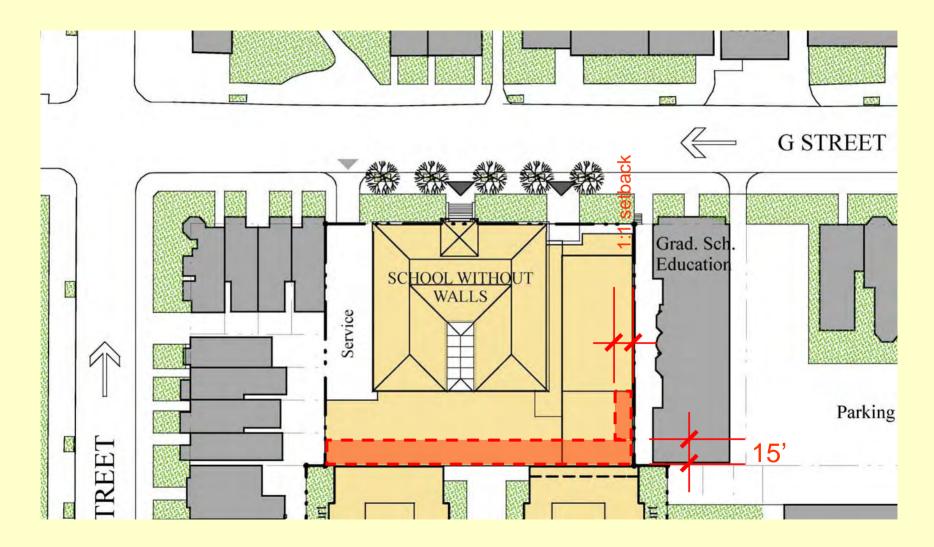


#### **Site Plan**





#### **Rear Yard & Penthouse Setbacks**





## **Design Principles**

#### **Urban Scale**

- 1. Reinforce the civic presence of the school on G Street, NW
- 2. Preserve the appearance that the existing building is freestanding by designing the addition to:
  - allow the corners of the existing building to be seen from the street
  - feature existing elevations within the addition where the addition attaches to the existing
- 3. Create an inviting & useful landscaped plaza on G Street
- 4. Reinforce the G Street "skyline"

#### **Renovation & Addition**

- 1. Natural light should be pervasive
- 2. Restore Historic Building
- 3. Work with original classroom module/structural system
- 4. Using existing M/E/P distribution pathways
- 5. Distribute accessible bathrooms appropriately
- 6. Create an accessible entry & building
- 7. Maintain the "volume" of the classrooms

#### **Education**

- 1. Accommodate multiple modes of learning
- 2. Foster informal interaction for teachers & students
- 3. Actively use "common" space
- 4. Encourage personalization of the learning environment
- 5. Maintain non-institutional character/no "corridors"
- 6. Create useful outdoor space
- 7. Accommodate active community and GW use
- 8. Foster a "subtle" means of security & one point of access
- 9. Accommodate current & future technology



#### "Streetwall" Architecture: Bays, Tops







#### **The Grant School Freestanding**





### **The Addition Appears Freestanding**



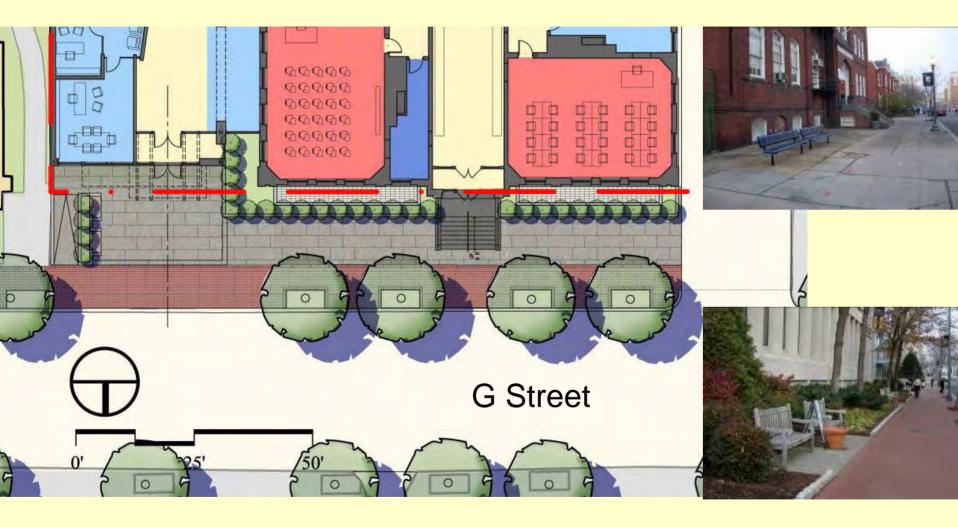


#### **Material Palette**





### **A Useful and Inviting Plaza**











#### **Second Floor Plan**

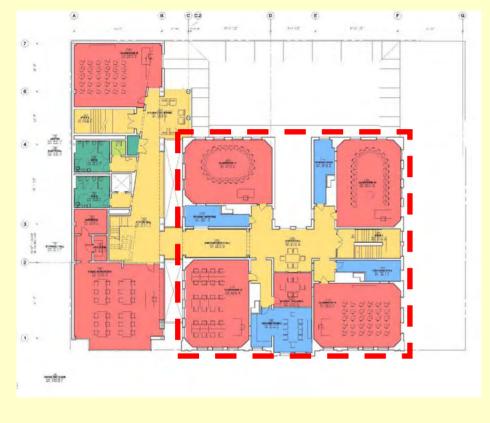








### **Third Floor Plan**

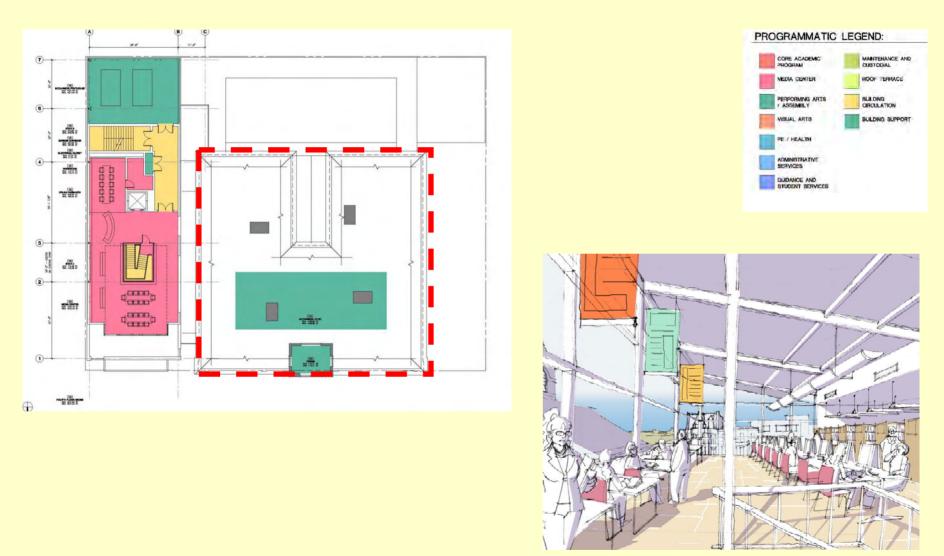






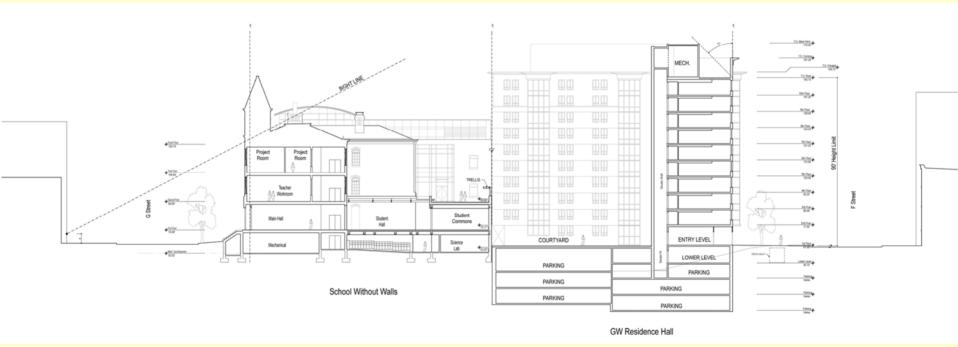


### **Fourth Floor Plan**





#### **North/South Site Section**





## **High Performance School Design**

#### Strategies being explored during Design

#### 1. SUSTAINABLE SITES

- Erosion & sedimentation control during construction
- Dense, urban site & connected to community
- Convenient to Metro
- Energy Star (high albedo) roofing

#### 2. WATER EFFICIENCY

Water use reduction strategy being explored

#### 3. ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE

- DDC automatic temperature control & energy management/surveillance system
- Occupancy sensors/time clock/photo cells control lighting system
- Roof top heat recovery ventilation units
- Interior "storm windows" installed in historic building
- Low e-glazing in new addition

#### 4. MATERIAL & RESOURCES

- Reuse of historic building
- Recycled content in replacement roofing
- Masonry & curtain walls from regional sources
- Rapidly renewable material and/or certified wood for doors & casework

#### 5. INDOOR ENVIRONMENT QUALITY

- Appropriate acoustics
- CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring
- Low-emitting paints, adhesive, sealants & flooring (Green Seal)
- Walk-off mats, exhaust in labs and copy rooms control indoor pollutants
- Temperature control in each primary program space
- Operable windows
- Natural light & views throughout the building

#### 6. INNOVATION & DESIGN PROCESS

- Innovative joint use facility (GWU/DCPS)
- Low emitting furniture being explored



# **Chris Graae**

# Principal DMJM|CGS



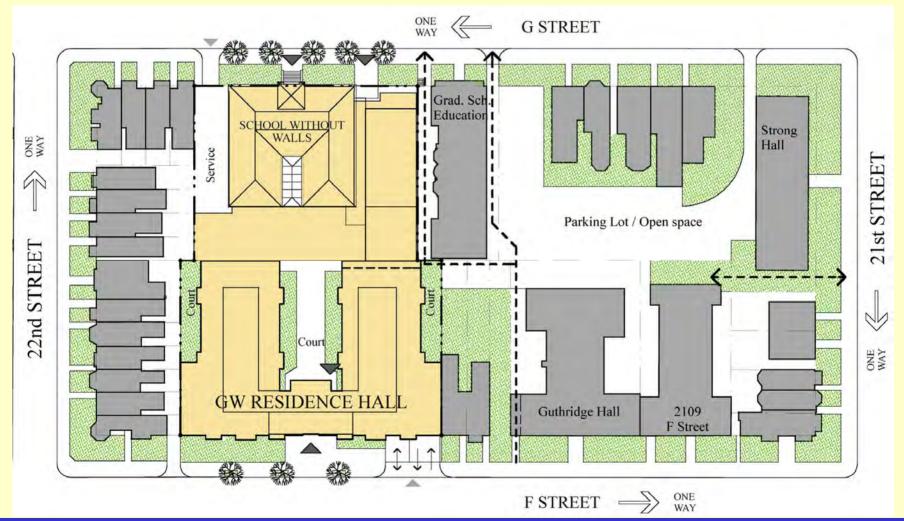
### **GW Residence Hall Project**

#### Building Program

- Provides approximately 474 beds
  - Typical unit includes four single bedrooms with shared kitchen, living area and two bathrooms
- Approximately 192,000 square feet above grade
- Accommodates approximately 178 vehicles below-grade (self-park & valet)
- Helps Achieve GW's Undergraduate Housing Goals
  - Additional on-campus housing for undergraduate students
  - Assists GW in maintaining long-term compliance with the Campus Plan housing condition
  - Provides additional on-campus undergraduate student housing to replace off-campus facilities that are proposed to be transitioned from undergraduate student housing uses as a condition of the proposed Foggy Bottom Campus Plan: 2006-2025
- Building design reflects principles developed through summer community-based planning process resulting in the proposed Foggy Bottom Campus Plan: 2006-2025



#### **Site Plan**





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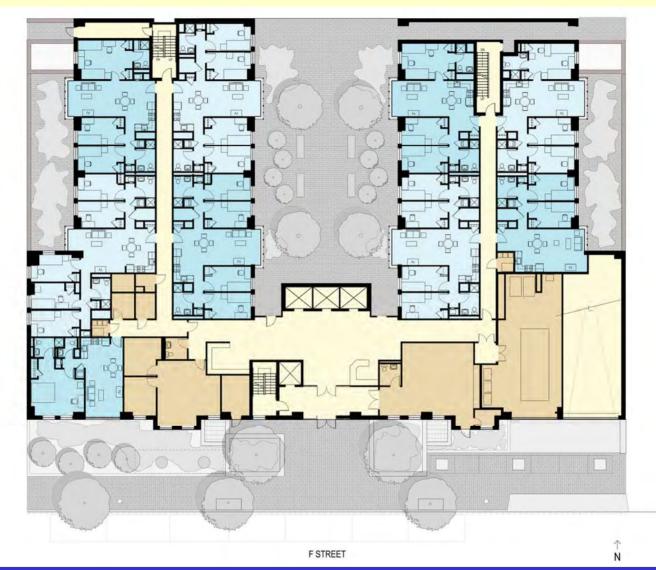
#### **F Street – Context Photographs**







#### **GW Residence Hall Project - 1st Floor Plan**





#### **GW Residence Hall Project - Typical Floor Plan**







### **GW Residence Hall Project**

## **F Street Perspective (Rendering)**





### **Residence Hall Streetscape**





# **Sustainable Design Goals**

#### Strategies being explored during Design

#### 1. SUSTAINABLE SITES

- Erosion & sedimentation control during construction
- Densely developed urban site; underground parking
- Alternative transportation convenient to Metro; bicycle storage
- Light pollution reduction both building and site
- Energy Star (high albedo) roofing
- Stormwater management

#### 2. WATER EFFICIENCY

- Water use reduction
- Water efficient landscaping

#### 3. ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE

- Building Commissioning
- Energy efficient HVAC / lighting systems
- Centralized Building Energy Management
- Use of non-ozone depleting refrigerants

#### 4. MATERIAL & RESOURCES

- Facilities within building for collection of recyclable waste
- Use of recycled content materials
- Local / regional materials sourcing
- Certified wood for doors & casework

#### 5. INDOOR ENVIRONMENT QUALITY

- Smoke free environment
- CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring
- Low-emitting paints, adhesives, sealants, flooring
- Walk-off mats control indoor pollutants
- Operable windows
- Natural light & views throughout the building
- Temperature control within individual living spaces

#### 6. INNOVATION & DESIGN PROCESS

- LEED Accredited Professionals on both design team and University staff



# Andi Adams

# Architectural Historian Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman



## **The Project in Context**





### **The Project in Context**





### **The Project in Context**





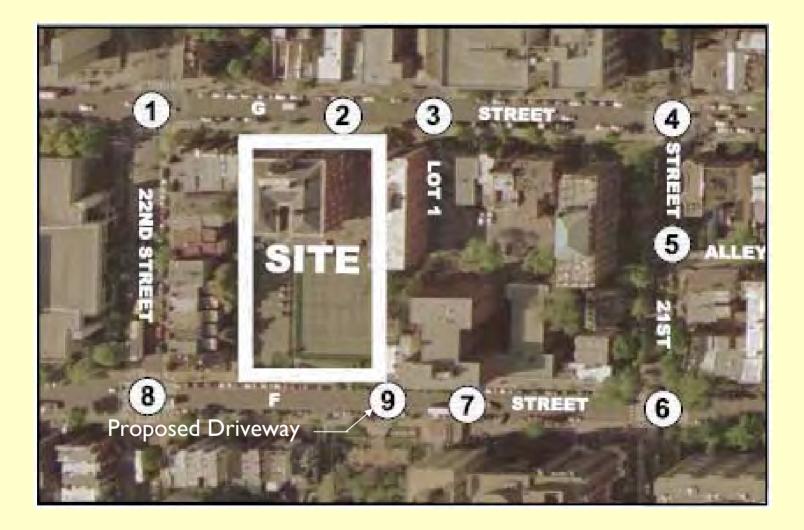


# **Jami Milanovich**

# Senior Associate Wells and Associates



#### **Study Area**





### **Existing Levels of Service**



Levels of service shown are **overall** intersection levels of service.



## **Trip Generation**

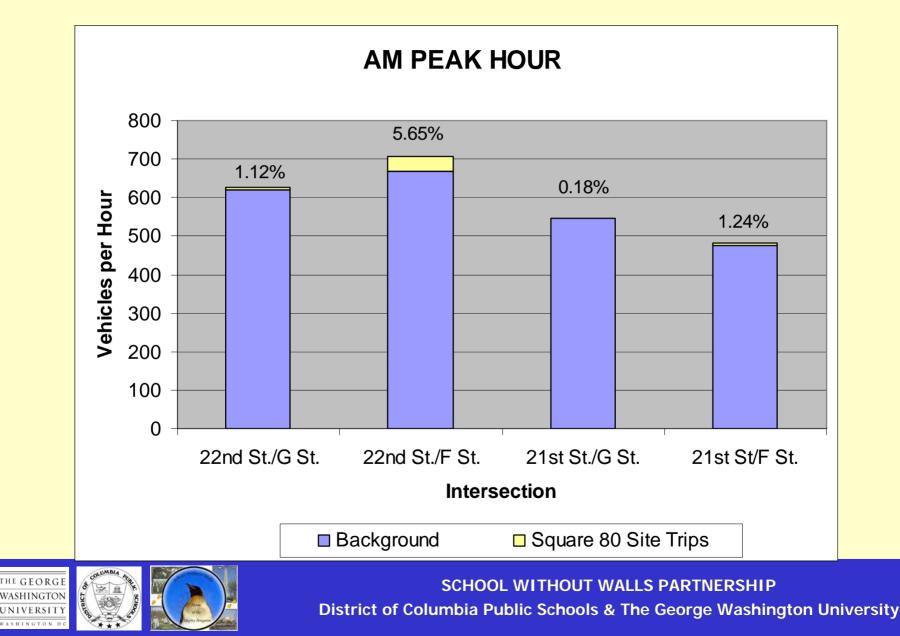
Component	AM PEAK			PM PEAK		
	In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total
SWW Expansion	15	10	25	2	4	6
GW Garage Trips	26	3	29	9	21	30
Total	41	13	54	11	25	36



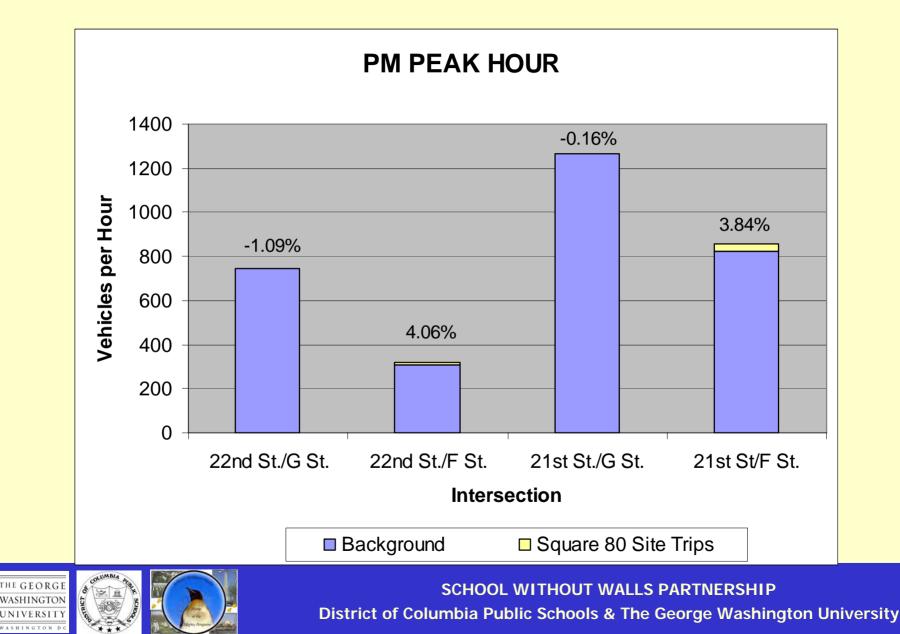
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## **Proportional Impact – AM Peak Hour**



### **Proportional Impact – PM Peak Hour**



49

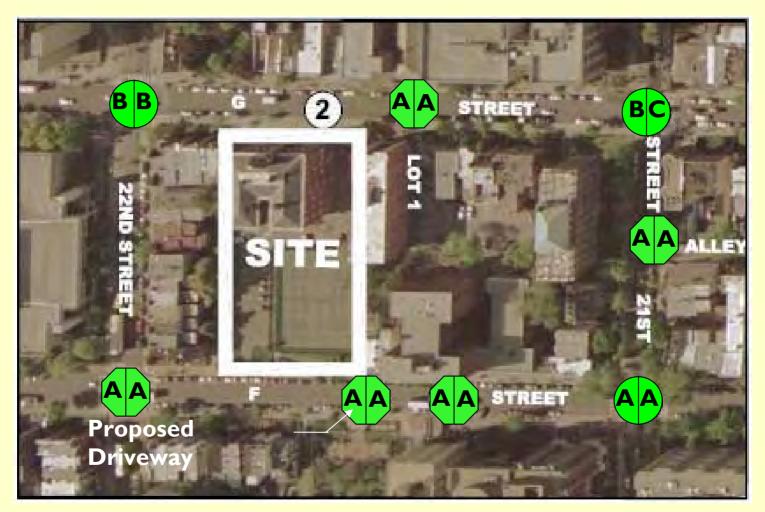
### **Background Levels of Service**



Levels of service shown are **overall** intersection levels of service.



#### **Total Future Levels of Service**



Levels of service shown are **overall** intersection levels of service.



# Louis H. Katz

# **Executive Vice President & Treasurer The George Washington University**



## **The George Washington University**

- The University has been located in Foggy Bottom since 1912
- GW's location is key to its mission & critical to its success
  - Synergies created by proximity to organizations and resources
  - The GW Experience is one that occurs both inside & outside the classroom, both within & beyond GW's campus boundaries
- Like SWW, by capitalizing on its location, GW delivers an educational experience that is both distinctive and rewarding



# **The George Washington University**

- GW and SWW have a longstanding partnership
- Unique partnership results from collaboration stemming from complementary missions as well as physical proximity
  - The partnership has grown and evolved over the years
  - This project provides an additional opportunity to expand the partnership and affect lasting improvements for both organizations



# **Building a Living & Learning Community**

- Building a Living & Learning Community is critical to the delivery of education at The George Washington University
- Providing on-campus undergraduate student housing is important not only to the University but also to the surrounding community
- This project provides additional on-campus undergraduate student housing to replace off-campus facilities that are proposed to be transitioned as a condition of the proposed *Foggy Bottom Campus Plan: 2006-2025*



## The Importance of this Site

- Site-specific opportunity for partnership with DCPS
- Accommodates the need for additional space while accomplishing historic preservation goals
- Development of this site as proposed creates positive benefits for the District, the community, and the University



# **Maureen Dwyer**

# Partner Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman



## **Project Benefits/Amenities**

- Renovation and modernization of the Grant School
- Enhanced programmatic collaboration between GW and SWW
- Historically sensitive modernization and addition to SWW
- Implementation of streetscape improvements
- Implementation of sustainable design principles
- Additional on-campus student housing

