



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2018, 7:00 pm

Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church
2200 California Street NW

Call to Order

Chair David Bender called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners David Bender (2D01) and Ellen Goldstein (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum. There were 28 residents and visitors in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's April 30th, 2018 meeting agenda. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Approval of March 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's March 19th, 2018 meeting minutes. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Administrative and Financial Matters

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Goldstein said that the first meeting of DC's Task Force on Embassy Neighborhood Cooperation was convened on April 12th by the Mayor's Office. She said that the meeting included representatives from various DC Government agencies, ANC 2D, and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton's office. She said that the task force will meet at least two more times this year.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the ANC recently received notification from the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) that two on-street parking spaces will be designated as diplomatic parking spaces at the Embassy of Albania at 2100 S Street NW.

Chair Bender said that a portion of California Street NW will be closed on Sunday, May 20th from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm so that The Brighton Condominiums can conduct repair work to the building's HVAC system.

Chair Bender said that the Friends of Belmont Road Park has established an email address for the organization. He said that anyone who would like to contact the organization can send an email to: belmontroadparkdc@gmail.com.

Chair Bender said that the building at 2540 Massachusetts Avenue NW is planning to add three new cellular antennas to the top of the building.

Chair Bender moved to support the Friends of Mitchell Park's park permit application for Mitchell Park Fun Day on Saturday, October 27th. Commissioner Goldstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2D supports the Friends of Mitchell Park's park permit application for Mitchell Park Fun Day on Saturday, October 27th, 2018 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Goldstein said that the current balance of the ANC's checking account is \$9,014.25.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the three grants that the ANC recently awarded to neighborhood organizations were cleared by the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions.

DC Government Reports

Metropolitan Police Department

Lt. Jerome Merrill (jerome.merrill@dc.gov), a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. He said that, with the summer months approaching, he recommended that local residents be extra vigilant, especially with regards to not leaving valuables in residents' cars.

Mayor's Office

Jerry Chapin (jerry.chapin@dc.gov), a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that Mayor Bowser has designated May as "innoMAYtion Month." He said that the month will highlight DC's great small businesses, tech businesses, and women-owned businesses. He encouraged local residents to learn more about the events planned during the month by visiting: www.innomaytion.org.

Councilmember's Office

Joe Florio (jflorio@dccouncil.us), a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, said that the DC Council held its oversight hearings regarding the Mayor's proposed FY 2019 budget

over the past month. He said that the DC Council's Committee of the Whole will hold a hearing regarding the FY 2019 budget tomorrow.

Old Business

Our Lady Queen of the Americas Elevator Project

Rebekah Tosado, a local resident and a member of Our Lady Queen of the Americas Parish, gave a visual presentation regarding the history of the parish and its facilities. She said that much of the church building and the chapel have been refurbished over the years due to community generosity.

Ms. Tosado said that many of the parish's members with disabilities struggle to reach the second floor of the building. She said that the parish set out to raise money and create plans for the installation of a new elevator. She said that the project recently received support from the Archdiocese of Washington. She gave an overview of the plans for the new elevator.

Ms. Tosado said that the parish is looking for ideas for additional sources of funding in the community to pay for the elevator. She said that the parish is trying to raise \$700,000 for the project.

ANC 2D Curbside Management Resolution

Chair Bender moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Goldstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) concluded the Citywide Curbside Management Study in August,

WHEREAS, DDOT initiated neighborhood focused/context studies in October of 2014,

WHEREAS, DDOT's study of parking in ANC 2B and ANC 2D has been extremely thorough and has identified the following conditions, among others:

- The number of Ward 2 Residential Permit Parking (RPP) vehicles is 5.7 times more than the number of RPP spaces,
- 30% of vehicles parked in RPP spaces in North Dupont/Sheridan-Kalorama are intra-Ward 2 plated vehicles,
- There is limited parking availability during midday, evenings, and weekends in North Dupont and Sheridan-Kalorama, with parking occupancy throughout North Dupont and Sheridan-Kalorama at greater than 80% on weekends,
- Overnight parking occupancy is more than 90% in North Dupont and Sheridan-Kalorama,

WHEREAS, DDOT held an initial stakeholders meeting in May of 2015, and subsequent stakeholders meetings in August of 2015, May and June of 2016, and March of 2018, to discuss the data from DDOT's Curbside Management Study, the neighborhood-scale curbside planning approach, neighborhood priorities, and short- and long-term recommendations for ANC 2B and ANC 2D, and

WHEREAS, through these meetings with DDOT and separate meetings of the stakeholders group in January and March of 2018, the following overarching priorities have been identified to enhance fair and equitable management of limited curbside access:

- Residential Permit Parking: Manage the neighborhood supply and demand in favor of residents as already implemented throughout ANC 2D,
- Visitor Parking: Accommodate needed visitor parking through a controlled-access program,
- Commercial Parking: Manage commercial parking spillover onto residential streets while ensuring adequate parking for commercial access for patrons and deliveries,
- Enforcement: Enhance the consistency and timeliness of enforcement of parking rules and violations,
- Signage: Clarify and simplify signage for parking spaces to avoid confusing and conflicting information.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2D requests that DDOT proceed with the Local Parking Management Pilot Program by implementing these recommendations:

For neighborhood residential parking:

- Create smaller RPP zones within Ward 2 (for example divide the ward into three or four parking subzones),
- Exclude ANC 2D from the any pay-to-park program,
- Implement an online system for (a) one free visitor pass, which must be renewed every two years, per household for residential construction contractors or temporary short term visitors, with (b) an additional menu of limited-time visitor pass options for a small fee, with a maximum of one per household at any given time, including day and week passes and a limited number of need-substantiated annual passes (e.g. for home health aides or school teachers),
- Consider placing a reasonable limit or cost increases on RPP permits for more than two vehicles registered at the same dwelling unit,
- Right size diplomatic parking, such as by removing street parking for ambassadorial residences, eliminating parking privileges for foreign properties that are vacant, and reducing parking set aside for "quasi diplomatic" spaces,
- Improve parking signage to minimize the number of signs, such as by implementing grid-style signs that provide "at-a-glance" understanding of when parking in a space is legal and when it is not, the cost, and what permits are honored, and

- Designate all un-designated parking spaces as RPP or metered as appropriate for their location.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2D prevails upon the Council of the District of Columbia to provide the requisite legislative and fiscal authority in a timely manner, allowing DDOT to expedite implementation of this project, and to also require the full cooperation of the Department of Public Works to provide all necessary enforcement and other supporting services for this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2D requests that DDOT presents an update on progress to ANC 2D no later than the ANC's September 17, 2018 meeting, and establishes a schedule for subsequent progress reports to the ANC by DDOT.

Chinese Embassy Apartment Building Project

Chair Bender said that the ANC recently received an update from the construction crew for the Chinese Embassy apartment building project at 2300 Connecticut Avenue NW. He said that the construction crew is estimating that the project will be completed in March of 2019.

Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project

Huntae Kim (huntae.kim@dc.gov), a Program Manager for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), provided an update on the plans for the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project. He said that DDOT is currently moving towards the 65% design phase for the project. He gave a visual presentation regarding the updated plans for the project. He said that the main focus for the project is to rehabilitate the pavement along the avenue.

Mr. Kim said that DDOT is planning to fix some of the avenue's damaged and non-ADA compliant sidewalks as part of the project. He said that the project will also include improvements to signage and landscaping along the avenue, including the installation of low-impact landscaping features.

Mr. Kim said that since the presentation of the initial design for the project in November of 2017, DDOT has decided to completely reconstruct certain sections of the avenue's roadway, including the section of the roadway between Waterside Drive and 24th Street NW. He said that this decision was based on a thorough analysis of the current state of the pavement and the supporting soil beneath the pavement.

Mr. Kim said that DDOT has also decided to eliminate the proposed roadway median from the plans for the project. He said that DDOT is currently proposing to widen the outer lanes of the roadway in order to provide additional space for cyclists.

Mr. Kim said that DDOT has also eliminated the proposed restructuring of the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Q Street NW from the plans for the project based on conversations with DC's Historic Preservation Office (HPO). He said that DDOT is currently proposing to make improvements to the locations and angling of the traffic lights at the same intersection.

Mr. Kim said that DDOT is looking to further minimize the impacts to the existing trees along the avenue as part of the plans for the project. He said that DDOT is currently proposing to remove only one or two of the existing trees, and is also proposing to add more than ten new trees to the avenue. He added that DDOT is looking to finish with the 100% design phase by October or November of 2018, and is looking to start project construction in 2019.

Chair Bender said that he hoped that DDOT would not install LED streetlights that are greater than 2,700 Kelvin as part of the project. He said that he thought that the 65% design phase plans were a great improvement over the previous plans for the project.

Chair Bender asked if DDOT was working with Restore Mass Ave regarding the project plans. Mr. Kim said that DDOT has been actively communicating with the organization regarding the project.

Holly Sukenik, a Board Member for Restore Mass Ave, asked if DDOT will hold more public meetings regarding the project as the agency proceeds through the project design phases. Mr. Kim said that DDOT will return to the community as the agency proceeds through each design phase, as well as before the agency starts project construction.

Ms. Sukenik reiterated the community concerns regarding the Kelvin level for the streetlights that will be installed along the avenue, as well as regarding the design of the streetlights themselves.

Update Regarding the Project at 2310 Bancroft Place NW

Chair Bender said that the ANC first reviewed the plans for the project at 2310 Bancroft Place NW five years ago. He said that it appears that construction on the project recently commenced again. He added that the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) has told the property owner that, should work at the site stop again, their construction permit could not be renewed again.

Update Regarding the Project at 1806 24th Street NW

Chair Bender said that the owner of the property at 1806 24th Street NW has added a patio on the property's front stoop, as well as a box at the street level, thus destroying the historic nature of the row of adjacent properties. He said that the patio is larger than what was previously agreed to. He said that DC's Historic Preservation Office (HPO) has told the property owner that they have to remove the box and the patio. He added that the property owner has not yet adhered to the regulations.

New Business

Initiative #77—DC Tipped Wage Measure

Khalid Pitts, a representative for the Save Our Tip System Initiative 77 organization, provided his reasoning for why voters should vote “no” on Initiative Measure Number 77, a ballot question for DC’s June 19th Primary Election.

Announcements

Holly Sukenik, the Treasurer for the Spanish Steps Preservation Project and Endowment Fund, said that the organization sends its thanks to the local residents who attended yesterday’s fundraising event for the organization.

Open Comments

There were not any open comments.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Bender said that the ANC’s next meeting will be on Monday, May 21st at 7:00 pm at Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church, 2200 California Street NW.

Motion to Adjourn

Chair Bender adjourned the meeting at 8:42 pm.