



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

### Regular Meeting Minutes

September 17, 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 43 residents and visitors in attendance.

### Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's September 17th, 2018 meeting agenda. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

### Approval of June 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's June 18th, 2018 meeting minutes. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

### Administrative and Financial Matters

#### Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Goldstein said that the Government of Serbia has approved funding to renovate its two diplomatic properties in the neighborhood. She also said that the Government of Cameroon has begun renovations on its diplomatic property at 2349 Massachusetts Avenue NW, however little progress seems to have been made on the project. She said that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has issued a stop work order for the construction work pending a meeting between Government of Cameroon and DDOT officials.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the Dupont Circle Business Improvement District (BID) recently hired its first Executive Director, Colleen Hawkinson, who formerly worked at DDOT.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR) will be holding a series of workshops in October to educate seniors about DC's real property tax relief programs. She said that the workshop that will be closest to ANC 2D will be held on Wednesday, October 17th

from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the University of the District of Columbia's (UDC) Institute of Gerontology, 4200 Connecticut Avenue NW, Room A03.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the DC Preservation League will be holding a series of programs regarding Historic Preservation Community Day on Saturday, September 22nd from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at All Souls Church, 1500 Harvard Street NW.

Commissioner Goldstein said that DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson will be holding a hearing regarding DC Council Bill B22-0465 - the "Foreign Government Owned Vacant and Blighted Building Amendment Act of 2017" on Wednesday, September 26th. She said that she may or may not testify during the hearing.

Chair Bender said that St. Margaret's Episcopal Church will be holding a Blessing of the Animals event on Saturday, October 6th from 2:00 to 3:00 pm.

Chair Bender said that the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) has released information regarding the new DC tax rates that will go into effect on Monday, October 1st. He said that DC's sales tax will increase from 5.75% to 6% and that the cap for DC's estate tax will now be set at \$5.6 million.

Chair Bender said that 138 pieces of graffiti have been removed in Ward 2 as part of Mayor Bowser's Great Graffiti Wipeout initiative.

Chair Bender said that he has received complaints regarding illegal parking on Wyoming Avenue NW. He said that he has alerted DC's parking enforcement officials regarding the matter. He added that the DC Government needs to take action to address the unsafe traffic conditions at the intersection of Belmont Road and Massachusetts Avenue NW.

#### Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Goldstein said that the current balance for the ANC's checking account is \$10,265.90.

#### FY 2018 3rd Quarter Financial Report

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's FY 2018 Quarter 3 financial report. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

#### Introduction of FY 2019 Draft Budget

Chair Bender said that any local residents who have comments regarding the ANC's draft FY 2019 budget can email the comments to the ANC. He said that the ANC plans to vote on the draft budget during the ANC's regular October 2018 meeting.

#### DC Government Reports

## Metropolitan Police Department Police Service Area 208

Lt. Jerome Merrill, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. He encouraged local residents to not leave any valuables in their vehicles.

## Mayor's Office

Richard Livingstone, a former Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that he and his colleague Jerry Chapin are transitioning into new roles with the DC Government. He introduced MOCRS' new Ward 2 liaisons, Alyssa Ryan and James Cerasia, who each gave an overview of their professional backgrounds. Ms. Ryan said that she will be ANC 2D's primary contact in MOCRS. She encouraged local residents to report any graffiti in the neighborhood through the city's 3-1-1 call center. She also gave an overview of the Mayor's Private Security Camera Rebate Program.

Commissioner Goldstein said that she hopes that Ms. Ryan and Mr. Cerasia will be able to help the ANC receive email responses from DC Government officials who the commissioners have sent emails to.

## Councilmember's Office

*There were not any updates from Councilmember Jack Evans' Office.*

## **Old Business**

### Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project

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, at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 17, 2018, ANC 2D, serving Sheridan-Kalorama, considered the resolution on "DDOT's Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project," as enacted by ANC 2B, serving Dupont Circle, on June 13, 2018,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) held an initial stakeholders meeting in May of 2015 and held subsequent 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 2D and ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, additional stakeholder meetings were held with representatives from ANC 2D and ANC 2B with the following priorities being identified:

- 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, and
- Signage: Clarify and simplify signage for parking spaces to avoid confusing and conflicting information.

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2018, ANC 2D Commissioners approved the “ANC 2D Curbside Management Resolution” at a duly-noticed public meeting by a vote of 2-0-0, which endorses principles that were further enumerated by a subsequent resolution from ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, within the scope of the Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project, ANC 2D endorses the proposal that the project will implement a pedestrian- and vehicular- (including cars, trucks, buses, bicycles, scooters etc.) friendly traffic flow plan,

WHEREAS, Connecticut Avenue NW is one of two major arterial roads which are of vital importance to the northwest section of the District and Sheridan-Kalorama,

WHEREAS, ANC 2D generally supports the current design of the streetscape project, especially the portion from Florida Avenue NW to California Street NW as presented (landscaping, medium divides, enhanced No Left Turn signage at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and California Street NW, benches/sitting areas, and pedestrian safety) at various ANC 2D public meetings, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2D requests that the provision for “bike lanes” as stated in ANC 2B’s resolution be given further study for the section of Connecticut Avenue NW from Florida Avenue to the Taft Bridge, which is highly congested during rush hours given that the street narrows as it approaches the bridge.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2D requests that the District Department of Transportation undertakes this project in a timely and transparent manner, keeping the residents informed of the progress of the project as well as any significant changes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2D requests and expects to be included and involved in the continued design and execution processes for the project, specifically for the section from Florida Avenue NW to California Street NW.

Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project

Huntae Kim, a Program Manager for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave a visual presentation regarding the most up-to-date plans for the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project. He said that DDOT is close to completing the 90% design for the project.

Mr. Kim said that the main focus for the project is to rehabilitate the roadway pavement along Massachusetts Avenue NW from Dupont Circle to Waterside Drive. He gave an overview of the sections of the roadway that will just be resurfaced and the sections where the roadway will be completely reconstructed. He said that the project also includes some sidewalk reconstruction and various streetscape improvements, including landscaping upgrades, streetlight upgrades, bench installations, and trash can installations.

Mr. Kim gave an overview of the lane closures and other anticipated impacts of the construction activities for the project. He said that DDOT will ensure that vehicular access is maintained for all residents, businesses, and embassies throughout the construction period. He said that the total construction period is estimated to be about 18 months long and that construction is estimated to begin in May or June of 2019.

Chair Bender said that the ANC hopes that the project does not take place at the same time as DDOT's Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project, as construction work taking place on both avenues at the same time would hinder vehicular ingress and egress for the neighborhood.

Commissioner Goldstein said that she is concerned about how DDOT will divert vehicular traffic traveling towards the construction area. Mr. Kim said that two lanes of traffic will be maintained for the peak travel direction throughout the construction period.

Deborah Shapley, the President of Restore Mass Ave, said that she hopes that DDOT officials will be able to meet with Restore Mass Ave's tree experts to further discuss the project. Mr. Kim said that DDOT officials will be able to meet with the organization's tree experts.

*DDOT's full presentation regarding the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project can be found at: [www.bit.ly/DDOTMassAve](http://www.bit.ly/DDOTMassAve).*

#### 2300 California Street NW

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:

ANC 2D supports the project as presented at the ANC's September 17, 2018 meeting based on the understanding that the proposed fence will not be more than 42 inches tall, that the solid picket black iron fence will be compatible with the Sheridan-Kalorama Historic District, and that the location of the fence will be on the property line, with consideration for moving it to an alternate location as suggested by the Sheridan-Kalorama Historical Association.

## New Business

### Draft ANC 2D Meeting Schedule for 2019

Chair Bender said that copies of the ANC's draft 2019 meeting schedule are available on the meeting room's back table. He said that if local residents find any issues with the draft schedule, they can email the issues to the ANC. He said that the ANC plans to vote on the draft schedule during the ANC's regular October 2018 meeting.

### Small Cell Technology

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:

ANC 2D, after a brief discussion of 5G small cell technology at its September 17, 2018 meeting, expresses four concerns regarding the DC Government's Draft Small Cell Design Guidelines:

1. The number of small cell facilities that would be allowed per block in the Sheridan-Kalorama Historic District.
2. The effects of the small cell facilities on quality of life issues such as light, air, privacy, sound, and vandalism.
3. The small cell facilities' interface between WiFi and cellular technology.
4. The effects of the small cell facilities on the protection of the neighborhood's tree canopy.

### Decatur Place NW Traffic Calming Study Request

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

ANC 2D supports the traffic calming study request for all of Decatur Place NW.

### Street Lighting on Waterside Drive NW

*The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.*

### 2332-2338 Massachusetts Avenue NW - Renovation of Driveway and Court

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

ANC 2D commends the owners of the properties at 2332-2338 Massachusetts Avenue NW, as well as the architect and Kindy French from the Sheridan-Kalorama Historical Association, for drawing up thoughtful proposals. In light of all the work that has been done, and in consideration of green space, new trees, and the safety of neighbors, ANC 2D endorses Option 2 and Option 3 for moving forward.

### **Open Comments**

*There were not any open comments.*

### **Administrative and Financial Matters (Continued)**

#### **Treasurer's Report (Continued)**

Commissioner Goldstein moved to pay Peter Sacco, the ANC's Administrative Coordinator, \$300 for services performed as Administrative Coordinator during the months of April, May, and June 2018. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0)

### **Announcements**

Lynne Lambert, a representative for the Friends of Mitchell Park, said that the organization will hold a concert on Sunday, September 30th at 4:00 pm at Mitchell Park. She said that the concert will feature students from the Catholic University's Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art who will be performing songs from the musical Legally Blonde.

Holly Sukenik, a representative for the Friends of Mitchell Park, said that the organization will be holding a fundraising event at the beautifully-restored Embassy of Haiti on Tuesday, October 16th. She said that if any local residents would like an invitation or have any questions regarding the event, they can contact her via email at: [hsukenik@hotmail.com](mailto:hsukenik@hotmail.com).

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Chair Bender said that the ANC's next regular meeting will take place on Monday, October 15th, 2018 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 9:11 pm.